



NINETEENTH YEAR, No. 5.

MILWAUKEE, MAY, 1894.

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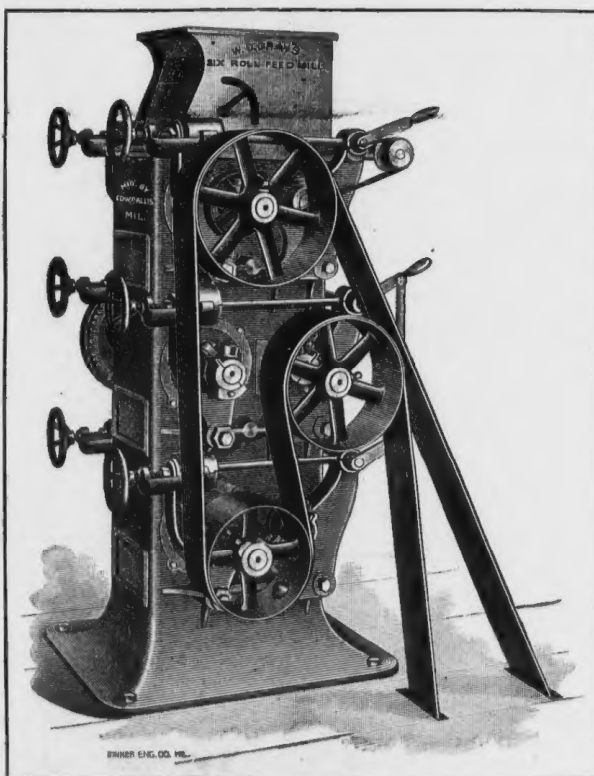
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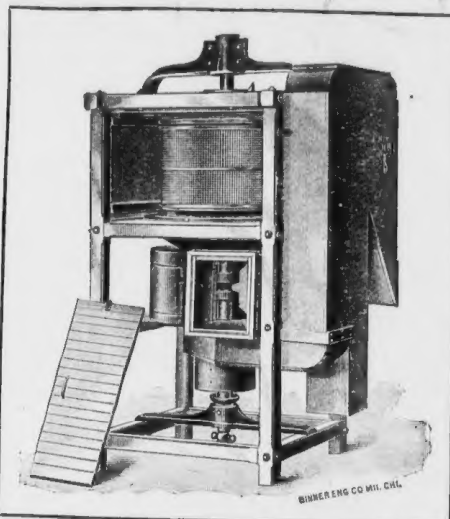
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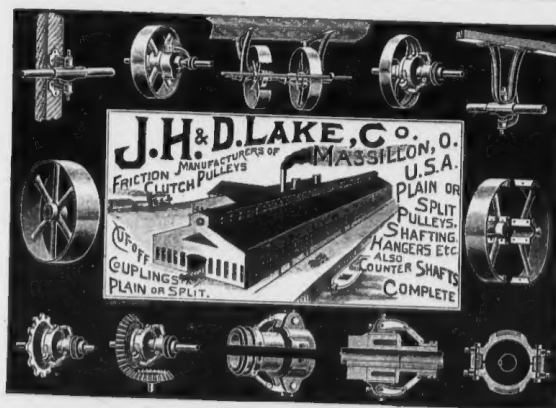


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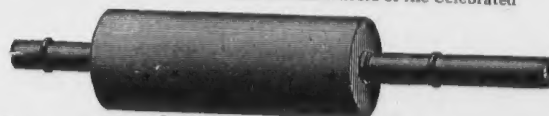
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HAS OUR FLOUR DETERIORATED.

THE following interesting article, appropos the much talked of subject, American Flour, appears in the *British and Foreign Confectioner and Baker*, of May 12th:

Milling, for May, continues to supply its readers with plenty and varied matter, re the degradation of American flour. "Macduff's" propositions on this subject, according to this journal, "will not bear looking into," and "he makes out anything but a good case for the American flour sellers, in opposition to British millers." Now, I am not in the slightest degree concerned to make out a case for the American flour seller, or for the American miller, my only concern hitherto and now is to prevent a miscarriage of justice, and to protect some innocent-minded bakers from the insidious counsels of those who, wittingly or unwittingly, are leading them astray. There are hundreds of bakers thoroughly efficient judges of the flour they are buying, and who need advice from neither one nor another, but then again there are other hundreds easily advised and easily led astray—men who, while master bakers, have no practical knowledge of flour, and who buy their flour on the strength of its seeming popularity, never dreaming that this popularity may be pumped up and artificial.

I have opposed this cry of deterioration, because "deterioration" is an entirely misleading word to use in connection with the change—the beneficial change—which has occurred in American mill products within the last eight years. If the British baker wants a flour less tough and more mobile than the experimental milling of eight or ten years ago produced he must have it, and the American miller shows proper business sense by making it for him according to instructions. Those British millers who can compete with the Americans now do so not by making flour of the over-refined or over-strong quality some of them made ten years ago; their flour to-day competes only with the American flour of today.

It is a matter of perfect indifference to us whether we get from the Americans the very best flour they can or do make, if all the time we get just the quality of flour we as bakers require, and at the price that suits us.

If "American journalists affirm that the commonest grades are sent over here," these journalists are right so far as their statement goes, and the simple reason is because many British bakers and British millers want the commonest grades; but the journalists might have affirmed further, and with equal truth, that great shipments of the finest grades also come over here, and for exactly the same reason—because we want it. American flour now, and as it always has been, may be bought, as the Cockney butchers say of their meat, "Any price you like," and I never heard that any baker who knew his business had any difficulty in securing American flour to suit his requirements. *Milling* wants to know if it suits the British public? The answer, Scotch fashion, is: Ask all, or nearly all, the big bakers in London, Liverpool, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, &c., &c. If I thought the editor of *Milling* would appreciate a fine loaf of bread, I could send him one of almost perfect color and bloom, sweet, and well-flavored, and made wholly from American flour. One, moreover, that has been a phenomenal success with the public, and that will bear favorable comparison with anything of similar price in any locality.

The array of authority which the editor of *Milling* invokes to confound my testimony is not in the least appalling. Mr. C. A. Pillsbury states, it seems, that some millers who could not get cost for a good flour, had lowered their standard. But what of it? The fact that millers cannot get the price for one standard of flour is *prima facie* evidence that their customers want the lower standard, and of course at a lower price, but this denotes the perfectly natural working or economic causes, and has nothing whatever to do either with "deterioration" or fraud. But, apart altogether from this, I am in the

habit of estimating the value of flour, not by the utterances of Mr. C. A. Pillsbury, or of American journalists, or of the precious "experts" who pose on this side, but by actual contact with facts. It has been part of my duty for years to examine flour in a specific and scientific manner, and I have altogether exceptional opportunities of doing so, both experimentally and in practical operations. Within the last few years I have treated hundreds of samples of all grades, both British and American milled. My opinion, therefore, is based, not on hearsay, or on vague impressions, but on precise and reliable data, as varied and as precise as any *Milling* is likely to get; so that before "Macduff" is likely to be converted, that journal will need to produce some stronger evidence than it has done heretofore.

To my charge of dishonest practices against some millers, there is given the inept *tu quoque* that bakers are no better. Thus, "what about those bakers who buy American (why American?) low grades, an admixture of flour, offal, and dirt, for a song, and whiten the bread they manufacture from it with alum and chemicals?" Well, in the first place there is this about them, they cannot make a decent loaf with low grade that is an admixture of flour, offal and dirt; in the second place there is no alum or chemical that will whiten American or other low grade flour as long as it is sound; in the third place, the *baker* who uses alum for such a purpose, exists only in the imagination of the editor of *Milling*, and if the amateur baker exists who really does so, he is a fool for his pains.

A correspondent, writing to *Milling* on this our question, gives the opinion that the American flour trade will be killed by the British miller, just as he has previously destroyed the imported flour trades of France, Belgium and Germany. Now I venture to think that the importation of French, Belgian and German flour into this country was stopped, less because of our superior than because of their inferior quality. French flour

lost caste in our markets after the increase of the import protective duty which the French government imposed on foreign flour, for the advantage of their millers. The millers took full advantage of all the protection the measure afforded, and put themselves out of competition in our market by seriously reducing the quality of their flour. The German and Belgian flour, which for a little time was imported here in large quantities, never had a real hold on our markets. The mere fact that it was German commended it to many for trial; but, as I remember it well, it was poor stuff, soft, sodden and soulless, good enough for soda scones, but of little use for our kind of bread-making.

The American flour trade is altogether on a different footing. America produces cheaply an abundant crop of magnificent wheat, and American (often English-American) millers and machinists have both the skill and the enterprise to make the best of their opportunities. They *ought* to make the finest of flour, and they do.

In spite of this, the British miller at home has no need to despair, but his salvation is only to be found in an honest effort to make better flour, not to create a fictitious opinion in favor of his flour by vilifying American. Trade gained in this way will not last, unless the average baker is as great a fool as some millers and others ostensibly think he is. I certainly think American flour will always be with us, although I should be pleased to see the quantity reduced, and the home millers secure a much bigger share of our trade.

EXTENSION OF OUR FLOUR TRADE ABROAD.

AT DUBLIN, IRELAND.

Extracts From U. S. Consular Reports.

THE obstacles in the way of the increase of the American flour trade in this district are slight. The chief obstacle seems to be the uncertainty of arrival of shipments, as there are no fixed sailings to this port. There is also some complaint of damage, chiefly weather damage, to flour while in transit on American railways.

This damage is computed to reach about one fourth of one per cent. In other respects the outlook is good. The American millers, as a class, enjoy a high reputation for honest dealing, and for keeping their leading brands up to a high standard of excellence. Sales are now made chiefly upon the reputation of the brand, and in every case where the quality of an established brand has been lowered the result has been a loss of trade. Hence the American millers' supremacy depends upon his maintaining his present high reputation. I may mention here, that in the wheat trade Russia enjoys an advantage over the United States, in that sales from that country are made by sample and if a cargo is not up to sample the loss falls upon the consignor, while from the United States sales are made by grade, and the certificate is final; in case of inferior grades, which are not rare, the loss falls upon the consignee.

As to the prospects for a more extensive business in American flour in this district, little or no prejudice exists against American flour, freights are low, exchange and shipping facilities are good, the reputation of American millers high, and the Irish millers have no marginal profit except as to the offal, and thus their competition reaches no further than the demand for their by-products permit. American flour is practically without rivalry from other countries; and hence the problem of extension depends upon the American farmer and the American weather. The extension of the American flour trade in this district brings almost entirely upon the quantity and quality of the wheat output in the United States in any given year and the consequent comparative price at which prime flour can be sold. There has been for the past three years in this district a rapid increase each year, but this increase will in all probability be slightly checked this year by the lesser quantity and lower quality of the American wheat crop of 1893.

But, right here, it may be questioned if our American millers have not forced their foreign markets to their own loss, and to the loss of the American farmers who grow wheat the average price of American wheat in the United Kingdom in 1893 was about \$1.60 per cwt. and for American flour about \$2.31 per cwt., or a difference of only about 71 cents between the price of 112 pounds of wheat and the same amount of flour; the above prices in each case being the average for all grades. Commenting on this feature of the

markets the Corn Trade Year Book says:

It is extremely doubtful if more than a small percentage of the American flour is even shipped on a legitimate basis, leaving a direct profit to the miller in the United States. Much of the stuff is consigned to this side in face of the certainty of its being sold under its bare cost and freight; of this there is indubitable proof.

This close competition is forced upon the American millers in part by the high price the millers of the United Kingdom can obtain for the by-product, but a portion of the low prices realized by them is undoubtedly due to an over zeal in forcing their markets. I revert to the matter because of the direct bearing this question has upon the profits of the American wheat grower. There are some grounds, however, for hope that the wheat and flour markets may gradually improve, as the supply from the crop of 1893 seems to be short of the probable demand prior to the availability of the crop of 1894.

* * *

ONLY FINEST QUALITY AMERICAN FLOUR
WANTED, IN GERMANY.

(Extract from a letter from W. H.
Edwards, Consul General
at Berlin.)

As it may puzzle our exporters to understand how the Germans can import only the finest quality of flour with profit, the following facts should be borne in mind:

The class whose financial circumstances permit them to make a choice of bread eaten with their morning coffee, tea or chocolate, certain forms of wheat bread, known as "Hornschen," "Knuppel," and "Milchbrodchen." All first-class hotels, restaurants, eating houses and homes are supplied by the bakers with these particular forms of wheaten bread. It is claimed on all sides that the best "Hornschen," "Knuppel," and "Milchbrodchen" can only be made from "auszugmehl" or the extra quality of the imported flour. It is claimed that the finest quality of flour made by German millers is not fine enough to produce the best quality of these particular forms of bread.

Those who eat the above kinds of bread, made from the finest imported flour, are, of course, called upon to pay a heavier price therefor; hence the flour that produces such bread, can be introduced with profit. As these forms of bread do not concern the masses, the importation of foreign flour is therefor greatly restricted, depending solely upon the fancy of the comparatively few who can eat what they like.

The bulk of the people of Germany eat rye bread only. For them wheat bread has no

attraction, and they have no appreciation of corn bread. Hot bread of any kind is unknown in Germany; therefore, corn bread can never find a place among the German people. Even if they took a fancy to corn bread, it would be useless to appeal to them to adopt it, as they are without the means to supply milk, eggs, etc., the vital ingredients of all good corn bread.

* * *

EUROPE'S WHEAT AND FLOUR
TRADE.

AMONG the items in a collection of consular reports on the possibility of enlarging our flour trade, just issued by the Department of State, is a table of the per capita consumption of wheat in various countries compiled by the Swiss Society of Commerce and Industry. If these figures be trustworthy they show some astonishing variations in the amount of wheat eaten by different nations. The consumption in the United States is set down as 357 pounds, which is considerably more than the usual estimates in this country, whether by the Agricultural Department or by unofficial experts. From this figure for the United States the consumption runs down to 66 pounds in Norway and Sweden, and runs up to the enormous amount of 705 pounds in France, Switzerland coming in a bad second with 418 pounds. The very low consumption in Germany, 143 pounds, is easily explained by the large amount of rye consumed there, and this also accounts for so small a consumption as 99 pounds in Russia. The very large consumption in France is explained in part by the fact that the people who eat little meat, also eat little of any other grain than wheat. But giving full weight to these considerations, it does not seem to be fully accounted for. The French consumption is nearly double the consumption in Belgium, Hungary and the United States, and more than double that of England and Italy.

Neighboring countries show marked variations in the amount of wheat consumed: in Belgium it is 378 pounds; in Holland, 283; and in Denmark only 165. In Spain it is said to be 413 pounds, and in Portugal it is 176 pounds. In Hungary it is 361, and in Austria only 187 pounds.

The consumption in England, according to this table, 352 pounds, approximates the amount said by the Consul at Liverpool to be the English average, 53½ bushels. Italy appears in this table as using 310 pounds per capita, while the report of our Consul in one of the Italian ports gives the consumption in Italy in the last three years as 4.2, 4.7 and 4.3 bushels.

Large as is the consumption of wheat in France, she is not a good customer of wheat exporting countries. She is one of the largest producers, and the schedule that went into effect in February advances duties on all sorts of breadstuffs. Italy imported a good deal of wheat in 1892-3, but this was an abnormal year, and Italy will get the bulk of her imported wheat from the countries to the East. In 1892 an overwhelming majority of the wheat came from Russia, and the next largest quantities came from Turkey and Roumania. A comparatively small amount of flour is imported and nearly all that comes from Austria-Hungary.

Of the flour imported at Antwerp more than half comes from the United States. The amount of wheat imported into Antwerp from the United States was in 1891 nearly equal to, and in 1892 in excess of, the amount imported from the Danube region. The importation from India in 1892 was only about half what it was in 1891, and the importation from Argentina, about half of that from this country, was much smaller in 1892 than in 1891, though still in excess of 1890. The importation from the United States was three times as large in 1892 as in 1890, though the total importation increased very slightly.

The Belgian importation of wheat from this country increased steadily and very greatly from 1888 to 1892; from Roumania it was constant from 1888 to 1891, and the next year showed a large decrease; the importation from India increased rapidly from 1888 to 1891, and in the next year fell one-half.

One odd bit of information is furnished by our Consul at Ghent. Most of the baking there is done in three great co-operative bakeries. If you are a Socialist you get your bread at one, if an Anti-socialist at another, and if neutral at a third. Both the Socialist and Anti-Socialist bakeries expressed to our Consul a willingness to buy American flour if they could get what they wanted at a satisfactory price. The Consul seems to think it would pay to ship wheat or flour direct to Ghent; it would be quite an item to save the freight charges from Antwerp, and he says there would always be return cargoes.—*Journal of Commerce, May 5th.*

* * *

MYTHICAL.

THE services of twelve goddesses were necessary to grow a grain of wheat in Italy 2000 years ago.

No less than seventeen deities presided over the transformation of Roman wheat into flour, and the help of ten more was necessary before it became bread.

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Associations.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The secretary of the Millers' National Association has issued a circular which reads as follows:

MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 13, 1894.

The eighteenth annual convention of the Millers' National Association will be held at Chicago, Ill., Wednesday, June 13th, 1894.

Arrangements have been made to hold the convention at the Grand Pacific Hotel; members wishing to have rooms reserved for their use may engage them by writing the secretary of the Association beforehand, and stating the accommodations desired.

The Railroad Lines of the Western Passenger Association have granted for this occasion a special rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip, from points in Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota to Chicago, upon the certificate plan. In purchasing tickets to Chicago, it will be necessary to pay full first class fare and to obtain from the agent of whom the ticket is bought a blank certificate. If there are one hundred or more of these certificates presented to the joint agent of the Railroads at Chicago, he will sign orders upon which return tickets may be obtained, by the same route over which the holder came, at one third the regular first-class rate. The rate will be good, going to Chicago from June 11th to 13th, and returning from June 14th to 16th.

The past year has been an active one with the Association and there will be much of interest to report to members and to be acted upon at this meeting. The first session will be called to order at 10 o'clock A. M., and after hearing the reports of officers, the general business of the convention will proceed. No special addresses or features of entertainment have been arranged for, as it was deemed best and most satisfactory to make the meeting a strictly business one. It is hoped that all members of the Association who can, will be present.

MILLERS of Sibley county, Minnesota, are reported to be working to organize a local association.

THE Southwestern Winter Wheat Millers' Association will hold a meeting at Kansas City, Tuesday, June 12th.

THE executive committee of the Southwestern Winter Wheat Millers Association at a

meeting held at Kansas City, May 8th, indorsed the movement to organize a national congress of flour millers. The proposed organization is intended to look after the foreign interests of American millers.

THE Millers at West Superior have formed an association for mutual benefit and have appointed a man to buy all the wheat for the mills. Formerly each mill had a man on 'change, but this new move is made in the interest of economy.

THE twenty-first annual meeting of the Kansas Millers' Association will be held at Topeka, Kans., June 4th and 5th.

This will be a joint meeting of the Association and the Millers interested in the movement of placing Kansas hard wheat flour in the New England markets. A rate of one fare for the round trip has been secured on all railroads for this meeting.

WHAT has become of the Arkansas State Millers' Association which held several meetings three years ago? The Southern millers also had a well attended meeting at Nashville the year before and organized an association. It can not be that the millers of the Southern states are opposed to trade organizations or they would not have formed an association. Like the millers of other districts they need leaders who will push the association, and a paid official that will give his entire time and attention to the work of the association.—*American Miller*.

THE second annual meeting of the Winter Wheat Millers' League was held at the Grand Hotel, Cincinnati, May 16, President M. H. Davis, of Shelby, O., calling the meeting to order. Secretary Perry reported a membership of 143, 12 new members being added to the list during the year. Several interesting reports were read and resolutions introduced and referred to the respective committees. The following of-

ficers were elected for the following year: President, M. H. Davis, Shelby, O.; first vice president, Robert Ruston, Evansville, Ind.; second vice president, C. L. Cutter, Toledo; secretary, E. E. Perry, Indianapolis; treasurer, L. C. Miles, Akron, O.

THE Oregon and Washington Millers' Association which a year ago bid fair to become a great success, floundered on a flour mixing depot and every effort to revive it has failed. The association has \$86.50 in the treasury, and there are about 300 mills in the district covered by it so that its reorganization would seem a comparatively easy matter. What the millers of that district need is a few active progressive millers that will push the organization energetically and persistently. Every mill, large or small, should be pressed to join, and a competent secretary should be paid a good salary to look after the affairs of the association.—*American Miller*.

NO AMERICAN GRAIN VESSELS

Not a Bushel Exported in them Last Year.

Mr. William E. Ferguson, a member of the New York Produce Exchange, furnished on April 14th for publication his yearly compilation, showing the amount of grain carried by vessels of the various nations. Mr. Ferguson falls into the error of classing the Chester, of the American Line, as an American vessel. The Chester still flies the British flag, and with this in view it will be seen by the figures that follow that not a bushel of the something over fifty-five million that were exported last year were carried by American vessels, either steam or sail. Mr. Ferguson's statement is appended:

"The amount of grain exported from the port of New York during the year 1893 was 55,768,726 bushels. Of this 23,400,046 bushels were wheat, corn, rye, oats and barley, the balance being buckwheat, flax seed and peas. This quantity was less than that of the preceding year by 18,061,780 bushels.

Of this grain three cargoes were sent out in sailing vessels, 171,427 bushels—one (British) carried 107,765 bushels and two (German) carried 63,662 bushels; not one American. By steamers there were sent off 55,597,299 bushels, in 1,022 cargoes, in 324 vessels. Of these there was one American, the Chester, which took 16,357 bushels of wheat to Southampton. But there were 217 British vessels employed, which carried 604 cargoes, amounting to 34,259,656 bushels, a great deal more than half the export. Next came the Germans with 40 vessels, which carried 4,292,737 bushels in 128

cargoes. The Dutch had 11 vessels and took 92 cargoes, amounting to 4,651,111 bushels. The Belgians had 12 vessels and took 76 cargoes, or 5,240,242 bushels. The French had 15 vessels employed, which took 2,400,269 bushels in 43 cargoes. The Portuguese had 6 vessels and took 29 cargoes, in all 2,213,108 bushels. Four Norwegian vessels took 124,502 bushels, 7 Spanish took 597,149 bushels and 6 Italian 813,516 bushels.

These vessels did not always take their cargoes to their native country; they were simply carriers and after business. Yet most of them belonged to regular steamship lines.

The following table gives the grain exports in bushels for the last thirteen years:

Year.	Steam.	Sail.	Totals.
1881.....	53,255,728	19,730,583	72,986,312
1882.....	39,878,449	6,284,289	46,162,739
1883.....	44,805,009	4,232,936	49,037,945
1884.....	42,951,709	2,431,988	45,383,697
1885.....	44,221,704	2,381,473	46,603,177
1886.....	40,741,575	2,701,708	43,443,283
1887.....	50,761,570	1,992,921	52,754,491
1888.....	24,737,305	442,559	25,179,864
1889.....	37,140,569	765,670	37,906,239
1890.....	44,098,538	494,023	44,592,561
1891.....	47,883,201	690,704	48,573,905
1892.....	73,607,144	213,362	73,820,506
1893.....	55,597,299	171,427	55,768,726

Commenting on the figures, Mr. Ferguson said: "But what is surprising is the revelation it makes about the carrying trade. New York is, without doubt, the great grain exporting port of this country, notwithstanding the advances in that direction made by the lake ports in late years. Here we are—a nation of vast forests, abounding in excellent ship timber, with as good ship builders as any country in the world and with as brave sailors, yet where are we in this business?"

The best genius of a country is called upon to construct her ships and to manage her commerce," said Mr. Ferguson, when asked to account for the small amount of grain carried in American ships. "We have the factory, but not the shipyard. Give us free coal and iron and we can construct as good ships in New England as they can anywhere. Our ships cost too much, and we do not encourage the kind of emigration that is the best socially and morally. That is the reason we are not doing the carrying trade in grain.—*Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin*.

TWISTED THINGS.

It has been a queer year in some respects. Oats have sold for as much as wheat, pound for pound, and apples for more than oranges, peck for peck. All winter hogs have been worth more alive than dead, although there is no interest to compete with pork packers. Middlings and feed have sold for more than wheat and a dozen other trade anomalies have been witnessed. There seems to be a twist in things generally.—*American Miller*.

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News Notes.

W. J. FOLL is building a 50-bbl. roller mill at Faulkland, Del.

NEW machinery will be placed in the Pierson Milling Co.'s mill at Lawrence, Kan.

THE chances are that Carrington, N. D., is to have a 50-bbl. flouring mill this spring.

A BONUS of \$2,000 has been raised by Colville, Wash., for a 50-bbl. flour mill at that place.

C. E. DUNCAN has purchased a half interest in the Neosho roller mill, at Neosho, Wis.

THE Iglehart Bros., at Evansville, Ind., will enlarge the capacity of their mill to 500 barrels.

FOR a bonus of \$3,000 the Osakis Milling Co. will build a 300 or 400-bbl. mill at Osakis, Minn.

STEPHEN, Argyle and Warren, Minn., are each to have a 20,000-bushel Farmers' Alliance elevator.

CHAS. MEYERS has bought the Dallas City (Ill.) Milling Co.'s mill for \$1,720, and will refit the same.

THE citizens of Johnson, Wash., have raised a bonus and guaranteed a site for a flour mill at that place.

A NEW 75-bbl. mill is to be erected at Wauneta, Neb. A 150-bbl. mill at Braunfels, Tex., and one at Washington, Ind.

THE Etna Milling Co., of Wellington, Kan., will remodel and increase their mill to a 400-barrel capacity this summer.

THE Northern Minnesota roller mills at Red Lake Falls, Minn., started up April 27th, after a suspension of four years.

THE Krueger & Lachmann Milling Co., of Neenah, Wis., has filed articles of incorporation. The capital stock is \$80,000.

THE Farmers' Co-operative Milling Co., of Freeborn county, have purchased the Alden roller mills at Alden, Minn., of Johnson & Stevenson; consideration \$7,500.

OF the two elevators burned at Belview, Minn., recently, one, the Mulford elevator, will be rebuilt for the fall trade.

HEATH & SONS, at Fort Dodge, Ia., will nearly double the capacity of their oat-meal mill, ground for the addition of the plant having been broke.

BROOKER BROS., of Lancaster, Wis., have ordered the machinery for a complete two-break mill at that place. Their mill was recently destroyed by fire.

THE advisability of building a farmers' mill at Nelson, Minn., is being discussed with considerable interest. Another meeting will be held June 1st.

IT is reported that the Faulkton (S. D.) Development Association has located parties who are willing to erect a flouring mill there, provided a sufficient bonus can be raised.

SYER & MAYHEW of Thameville, Ont., are using oil for fuel in their flouring mill at that place. A strong flow was secured at a depth of 150 feet, with a pressure of 30 pounds.

WORK on the McCaul Webster & Co.'s new elevator at Vermillion, S. D., was commenced Monday, May 14. The material is all on the ground, and the work of completion will be pushed.

THE citizens of Baker City, Ore., have raised a bonus for Mr. J. M. Littleton, and that place will at last have a flour mill. The mill must be ready by the 31st of August, and is to be of 50-bbl. capacity.

MR. J. A. COLE will make several improvements in his mill at Rochester, Minn., this summer, by the building of a 25,000-bushel elevator, and the putting in of a roller-process rye and buckwheat flour mill.

THE Appleton (Minn.) Mill Co., on April 30, sold the Banner Mill of that village, together with all its personal property. It is expected that the capacity of the mill will be increased to 200 barrels per day next August.

THE Standard Elevator Co. will erect a 500,000-bushel elevator at Minneapolis, to be completed by

Aug. 1st. It will be fitted up with a full line of cleaning machinery, and be adapted to both storage and mixing purposes.

FAIST, KRAUS & Co., of the Duluth Roller Mills, Milwaukee, have purchased the 800-horse-power engine, built by the E. P. Allis Co. of Milwaukee, and used to furnish power for the intramural railway at the World's Fair.

THE Lake of the Woods Milling Co. will erect a grain elevator at Winnipeg, Man., to enable them to buy wheat from the farmers at that market. A storage warehouse for flour will also be erected in connection with the elevator.

THE old mill at Cannon Falls, Minn., lately burned, is being rebuilt by W. B. Davidson, the owner of the property, and F. R. Anderson, who let the contract to a Minneapolis party of building a 16,000-bushel capacity elevator; work to commence at once.

THE formal opening of the new flour mills of the Sperry Flour Co., at Fresno, Cal., took place April 13. An excellent program was rendered followed by a banquet. The mill is of brick, five stories in height, and the machinery is of the latest improved pattern.

AT a meeting of the St. Cloud, Minn., Council and General Committee, April 21, the Osakis Milling Co., whose mill at that place was destroyed by fire recently, made a proposition to erect a 300 bbl. flouring mill in this city, for a bonus of \$5,000. The plan meets with approval and will probably be granted.—Daily Market Record.

Fires.

ISAAC GRANT's flour mill at Reed City, Mich., burned April 26th. Loss \$4,000; no insurance.

UPTON & CRAIG's grain elevator at Charlotte, N. Y., burned April 29. Loss \$40,000; partially insured.

M. ERWIN's flour mill and elevator at Bourbon, Ind., burned April 28. Loss \$15,000; insurance \$5,000.

FIRE destroyed the grain-house of Archer & Howe at Henry, S. D., May 22. Loss \$4,000; partially insured.

R. D. MARTIN & Co.'s elevator at Pierson, Man., containing 12,000 bushels of grain, burned May 9th.

THE Wilson flouring and saw mills at Black Creek, Wis., together with 75 barrels of flour, recently burned.

THE elevator at the S. Y. Hyde Elevator Co., at Thompson, S. D., burned May 16th. Loss \$10,000; insurance \$4,500.

THE flouring mill of Mr. Henry Jennings, at Middleway, W. Va., burned May 9. Loss \$3,000; insurance \$1,000.

THE Northwestern elevator at Rothsay, Minn., together with 3,000 bushels of wheat, burned May 9th. Loss \$4,000.

LAPELLE & Co.'s grain elevator at Swanton, Vt., together with contents, was destroyed by fire April 29th. Loss \$30,000; insured.

THE flouring mill at Danville, Ill., owned by Henry Brind, was totally destroyed by fire May 4th. Loss \$35,000; insurance \$11,000.

THE flour mill and elevator at Embarras, Wis., owned by J. N. Palmer & Son, burned April 19th. Loss \$2,500; partially insured.

N. C. HOYT's steam saw and grist mill at Westfield, Vt., burned April 23. Loss on mill and machinery, \$10,000; partially insured.

THE flouring mill and saw mill owned and operated by J. H. House at Taylorsville, Va., burned May 3d. Loss \$7,000; insurance \$4,000.

By the burning of the engine room, F. T. Benjamin's grist-mill and stock was damaged to the extent of \$2,000; insurance \$1,000.

ROBT. GEBB's flouring mills and elevator, at Greensburg, Ind., burned May 18, together with 8,000 bushels of wheat. The loss is about \$25,000; insurance \$17,800.

THE Albany Crown Roller Mills, owned by Fred P. Hecklin, at Albany, Minn., capacity 100 barrels, valued at \$15,000, burned to the ground May 7th. Insurance \$8,000.

FIRE totally destroyed the Sprague flouring mill at Rushford, Minn., May 21st. Loss \$25,000; no insurance. A spark from the engine is supposed to have been the cause.

The flouring mill and elevator of C. W. McDaniel, at Franklin, Ind., together with a large quantity of flour and grain, burned April 25th. Loss estimated at \$25,000; partially insured.

The fire losses reported in the United States and Canada, for the month of April, were \$11,540,000, of which the milling and allied trades furnished losses amounting approximately to \$500,000.

FIRE BY LIGHTNING.—Lightning struck Bender Bros. elevator at Alexandria, S. D., May 8, setting fire to the elevator, wood and coal house. The Hunting Elevator Company's warehouses also burned. Loss on buildings and grain, \$5,000.

FIRE, May 2nd, destroyed the wheat house owned by Cargill Bros., the coal sheds and two freight cars belonging to the Milwaukee Railway Co., at Artesian. The family of J. A. Bailey was living in the second story of the warehouse and their furniture was entirely destroyed. Mrs. Bailey and her six-years-old daughter escaped in their night clothes. The loss will reach up into the thousands.

RECENT PATENTS.

The following list of patents for Milling and Grain-handling Appliances, granted during April, 1894, is especially reported for the UNITED STATES MILLER by H. G. Underwood, Patent Attorney, 107 Wisconsin st., Milwaukee, Wis., who will send a copy of any patent named to any address for 25 cents.

- No. 517,720—Preparing cereals, W. Onderdonk, New York, N. Y.
No. 517,608—Rotating Grain-meter, J. M. Finch, Maryville, Cal.
No. 517,650—Rotating Grain-meter, E. K. Hayes, Galva, Ill.
No. 518,088—Machine for mixing, weighing and packing flour, S. T. Ayres, Philadelphia, Pa.
No. 518,084—Grain-elevator, V. Weber, Princeville, Ill., and J. R. Harrison, Peoria, Ill.
No. 518,083—Register for grain-weighing and measuring machines, V. Weber, Princeville, Ill.
No. 518,287—Rotating grain weigher, J. Sudbrook, Belleville, Ill.
No. 518,060—Automatic shut-off for grain-elevator, G. W. Nye, Chicago, Ill.
No. 518,915—Sampler for grain, etc., T. Clarkson, Sutton, Eng.

TRADE MARKS.

- No. 24,456—John B. A. Kern & Sons, Milwaukee, Wis. Flour, oatmeal, parched wheat and other cereal foods. "A golden circle with a central transverse bar of red color across the same." Used since Dec. 15, 1893.
No. 24,531—E. Elsworth & Co., New York, and Buffalo, N. Y. Flour, oatmeal and cereals. "A seal-shaped disk bearing a clover blossom." Used since July 1, 1893.
No. 24,532—S. Green, New York: Wheat-flour. The word "Cear-ense." Used since April 15, 1893.
No. 24,533—Thompson Milling Co., Lockport, N. Y. Wheat-flour. The word "Unequaled" in peculiarly-formed letters. Used since Jan. 2, 1891.
No. 24,581—H. W. Bond, Fort Wayne, Ind. Wheat-flour. The words "Gluten-Gem" in peculiarly-formed letters. Used since Jan. 1, 1894.
No. 24,582—Minkota Milling Co., Duluth, Minn. Wheat-flour. The word "Almakota." Used since March 10, 1894.
No. 24,583—A. F. Roberts & Co., New York. Wheat-flour. The words "Seaside Mills La Panadera." Used since Dec., 1893.

THE WORLD'S WHEAT CROP.

The *Corn Trade News*, Liverpool, has the following interesting statistics to offer regarding the world's wheat supplies:

A good deal of correspondence is being contributed to the American trade press as to the actual quantity of wheat raised in the world during recent years, comparisons being drawn with former years to show how vast has been the increase of late. Many of the accounts are impaired by palpable errors, but all agree in showing a large aggregate increase in production during the past three years, as compared with the previous triennial period. The season has so far advanced that any errors that occurred in the earlier official and commercial estimates of the crops of 1893 can now be readily corrected with a fair assurance of arriving approximately near the truth. In the following tabular statement an attempt to show the true state of the case is made, the crop of each quarter of the globe for six years being shown in qrs. of eight bushels:

	1883	1889	1891
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
Europe.....	177,000,000	171,000,000	153,000,000
America.....	78,000,000	86,000,000	98,000,000
Asia.....	40,000,000	35,000,000	45,000,000
Africa.....	4,500,000	4,800,000	5,000,000
Australasia.....	5,000,000	6,000,000	5,000,000
Total, qrs.....	304,500,000	301,400,000	306,000,000
	1890	1891	1892
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
Europe.....	170,000,000	152,000,000	173,000,000
America.....	65,000,000	71,000,000	63,000,000
Asia.....	38,000,000	39,000,000	42,000,000
Africa.....	4,200,000	4,600,000	5,100,000
Australasia.....	5,000,000	3,200,000	5,800,000
Total, qrs.....	284,200,000	269,800,000	288,900,000
Average crop of 1891 qrs.....	1891 qrs.	394,000,000	281,000,000

Excess annually of recent over previous crops..... 23,000,000

In the tabular statement there are comprised the results of the most recent inquiries as to various crops. For the U. S. A. we have reckoned the output of the crops as follows:

	Bushels.
1883.....	400,000,000
1882.....	55,000,000
1891.....	690,000,000
1890.....	410,000,000
1889.....	491,000,000
1888.....	416,000,000

The Argentine crop harvested last December we have placed at 90,000,000 bushels. Russia we have credited with a yield of 49,000,000 qrs., including Poland and Caucasasia—a very liberal estimate comparing with 41,000,000 qrs. in the previous season, or 3,000,000 qrs. superior to the great crop of 1888, when 15,000,000 qrs. were exported. The Austrian, Canadian, and Chilean crops of this season are now reckoned at slightly smaller figures than was the case earlier in the season, but Hungarian and German estimates are raised.

It will be seen that the production of wheat in the aggregate has increased 8 per cent. comparing the first three years with the previous triennial period, and as it is unlikely that the increase of population amounts to 1 per cent per annum, taking an average of

all the Wheat-eating races, a possible explanation of the present unexampled state of depression may here be found. In our next review we will give the complete details of the foregoing tabular statement.

WORLD'S WHEAT AND FLOUR SUPPLY.

Compiled for Europe by the *Liverpool Corn Trade News*, and for America by the *Daily Trade Bulletin*, Chicago, and the *Market Record*, Minneapolis.

The following table exhibits the approximate available supply of breadstuffs in second hands in the principal countries of Europe, with the quantities afloat for the United Kingdom and continent on the dates named.

AVAILABLE STOCKS IN EUROPE.

	May 1, 1894.	May 1, 1893.
	Bushels.	Bushels.
Afloat for United King.....	11,700,000	11,100,000
Afloat for continent.....	10,900,000	10,800,000
Afloat for orders.....	23,000,000	22,600,000
Total afloat.....	45,600,000	44,500,000
In store, United King.....	17,800,000	21,100,000
do in store, France.....	15,700,000	7,500,000
In store, other countries.....	4,900,000	4,200,000
In store, Russia.....	15,500,000	12,800,000

Total European supplies..... 99,500,000 89,900,000

APPROXIMATE AVAILABLE STOCKS IN AMERICA.

The following table exhibits the approximate visible supply of flour and wheat in the United States and Canada:

	May 1, 1894.	May 1, 1893.
	Bushels.	Bushels.
Flour in Canada—equal.....	591,300	755,500
Flour in U. S.—east.....	8,402,000	10,310,100
Flour in U. S.—west.....	975,500	654,500
Wheat in Canada.....	6,292,800	7,749,800
Wheat in U. S.—east.....	82,251,200	101,928,700
Wheat in U. S.—west.....	9,503,000	4,461,800
Total.....	107,413,800	125,660,400

EXPORT VALUE OF WHEAT.

The Railroad and Warehouse Commission furnishes a statement showing the market value of No. 1 hard wheat at Duluth, May 1, 1894, as compared with actual sale of 8,000 bushels Duluth No. 1 hard at Liverpool for London delivery on the same day:

May 1—	
Price per bushel 1 hard at Duluth.....	.6175
Duluth elevator charges; weighing and inspection.....	.0130
Lake freight and insurance, Duluth to Buffalo.....	.1230
Buffalo elevator charges, commission, etc.....	.0125
Canal freight and insurance, Buffalo to New York.....	.0450
New York elevator charges; weighing, transferring, trimming, demurrage, commission, towing etc.....	.0150
Ocean freight, New York to London.....	.0300
Marine insurance, New York to ".....	.0225
Loss in weight Duluth to ".....	.0650
Net cost in London c i f.....	.7635

May 1—
1,000 qrs. (8,000 bushels) sold in Liverpool for London at 7s 7d per qr or (76s per bushel)..... .7025
Loss upon transaction 1 mill per bush..... .0010

C. I. F. means "cost, insurance and freight," or delivered at the dock, aboard vessel in London; purchaser paying all subsequent charges.

Receipts and shipments of wheat at the ports of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, for two weeks ending May 11, 1894.

Receipts.....	1,413,062 bushels.
Shipments.....	2,075,774 "
Previous two weeks—	
Receipts.....	1,436,721 bushels.
Shipments.....	1,905,000 "

EXPORT OF BREADSTUFFS FOR APRIL.

The following from the Bulletin of the U. S. Bureau of Statistics, shows the amount and value of domestic breadstuffs exported from all American ports during the month of April 1894, as compared with the same month, 1893:

	1894.		1893.	
	Bush.	Value.	Bush.	Value.
Barley.....	320,197	\$ 140,659	255,193	\$ 121,728
Corn.....	7,049,239	3,163,124	4,085,897	2,099,975
Oats.....	31,861	12,292	88,245	35,479
Rye.....	5,078,290	3,137,845	47,109	32,061
Wheat.....			5,594,926	5,112,906
Total.....	12,479,481	\$6,453,706	11,050,510	\$7,401,807

There were also exported during the month of April 1894:

22,807 bbls. Corn Meal valued at \$ 59,317
428,827 bbls. Oat Meal " " 11,236
1,365,400 bbls. Wheat Flour, " " 5,449,316

Total decrease in Breadstuffs under April 1893, \$1,052,692.

HOW FAR NORTH WILL WHEAT GROW?

It would be interesting to definitely ascertain how far North wheat will grow. In Canada, at present, the zone within which wheat is normally cultivated does not extend further north than the North Saskatchewan River, that is to say, about the 54th parallel of latitude. At the same time it is on record that wheat has been raised 300 miles north of the point indicated, or 600 miles north of the wheat belt of Southern Manitoba. A Canadian journal reports that a flour mill is to be erected at the mission station of Vermillion. Now that spot is about 550 miles north of Winnipeg, being near the 59th parallel of latitude, or nearly on the same latitude as Churchill, in Hudson Bay. The plant in question is being conveyed in wagons from Edmonton to the Athabaska River, to be floated down on the re-opening of navigation to Fort Vermillion. When erected, this will, it is said, be the most northerly mill in Canada.—*The Miller, London.*

WHEAT GOING SLOWLY.

Unless wheat prices fall in Minneapolis several cents below where they are now, compared with prices in the other principal markets, the supply of wheat at the beginning of the next crop year promises to be nearly as large as it was last year in the Northwest. The visible supply at Minneapolis, Duluth and in the interior is several million bushels less than it was then, but the wheat is going out of sight much more slowly. The wheat shipments from Minneapolis and Duluth so far this month are only 3,550,277 bush., against 6,709,230 bush. during the same time last year. A large part of the wheat in country elevators is owned by millers, and most of it in terminal elevators is tied up in one way or another by either being sold against for

future delivery or owned by millers. Still the fact that prices here are as high as they are in the East is mainly responsible for the smaller shipments. Unless the receipts increase to a point above the milling demand, or rates go up, or the cost of flour production be increased, it does not seem improbable that the present premium in the Northwest will continue for some time at least. Just now there is a large demand here for wheat to grind, as the elevator wheat is held too high to take it out, and the mills are running full on low freights to the East. Flour, however, is not selling satisfactorily, a part that is going East being stored. Conditions are favorable in the Northwest for the growing crop, which is some two weeks earlier than it was last year.—*Market Record.*

DECIDED IN THE COURTS.

WHAT CONSTITUTES GAMBLING CONTRACT.—The ratification of an act of an agent cannot be divided, and supplied to one part of the act and excluded from the other. It is entire or nothing. An agreement, signed by an ostensible purchaser of flour, couched in the following language: "Bought of E. O. Standard Milling Co., 3,000 barrels of Eagle steam flour at \$3.85, f. o. b. St. Louis, for shipment, at option, during month of March, 1893. It is further understood and agreed that if I do want to receive the flour in March, settlement may be made as follows, viz.: E. O. Standard Milling Co., paying me any difference that may be an advance in value, or my paying E. O. Standard Milling Company the difference between the purchase price and the market price at the time of settlement, provided the value then is less than the purchase price. Settling prices to be based on St. Louis Merchants' Exchange quotations on extra fancy flour at date of settlement," it was held to be void, as coming within the provisions of article 2983 of the revised Civil Code relating to gambling.—*E. O. Standard Milling Co. vs. Flower. Supreme Court of Louisiana. 15 So. Rep. 16.*

CONSTRUCTION OF DEED AS TO WATER RIGHTS.—The original owner of land on both sides of a river operated a gristmill on the west side at a point where the river bed was divided by a bed of rock into two channels. The water in the west channel was sufficient for the mill, except when the river was very low, at which times, the owner, by a temporary obstruction, turned the entire stream through the west channel. Afterwards he conveyed the land on the east side by a deed, the description in which con-

tained the following: "Also room in river below the falls for the convenience of building for any kind of machinery except a gristmill; also to put a dam across the river * * * not to damage the grist mill, and to use the surplus of water on his side of the river not to the injury of the said gristmill." The grantee was entitled only to the surplus of water in the east channel over the amount necessary to run the grantor's mill.—*Eastman v. Parker. Supreme Court of Vermont. 27 At. Rep. 611.*

WHEN BROKER EXCEEDS HIS AUTHORITY.—When a contract for the sale of flour has been made through a broker, and consigned by the seller to the purchaser, and the bill of lading sent directly to the latter, the broker, under his general power as such, has no authority to rescind the contract of sale, receive from the purchaser the bill of lading endorsed by him, and thus obtain possession of the goods from the carrier, or cause their delivery to a stranger, to whom he transfers the bill of lading. The purchaser in an action by the seller against him for the price, cannot avoid payment by reason of these facts, and no local custom or usage recognizing and upholding such dealings between purchaser and broker will affect the seller, unless the custom or usage be at least known to him, so that his assent thereto could reasonably be inferred. *Kelly v. Kaufman Milling Co. Supreme Court of Georgia. 18 S. E. Rep. 363.*

VALIDITY OF PURCHASE OF WHEAT ON MARGIN.—Where parties bought through reputable members of the Chicago Board of Trade a certain quantity of wheat which was delivered to them in the shape of warehouse receipts, and actual delivery was intended by all parties, as they could have received the wheat on demand. But after carrying it awhile on margin with said dealers, the wheat depreciated and was closed out at a loss, which was all paid by one of the parties, the other giving his note for his share of the loss. A finding that the note was not founded on a gambling contract will not be reversed. *Fisher v. Fisher. Appellate Court of Indiana. 36 N. E. Rep. 296.*

RIGHT TO WITHDRAW SUBSCRIPTION.—A person who subscribes money to assist a proposed corporation to erect a roller mill, may, before the whole amount necessary is subscribed or any liabilities or expenses have been incurred, or any organization has been perfected, withdraw his subscription by notifying the person having charge of such matter. *Lewis v. Hillsboro Roller Mill Co. Court of Civil Appeals of Texas. 23 S. W. Rep. 338.*

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We respectfully request our readers when they write to persons or firms advertising in this paper, to mention that their advertisement was seen in the UNITED STATES MILLER. You will thereby oblige not only this paper, but the advertisers.

Editorial.

ORGANIZATION AMONG MILLERS.

SOME of our cotemporaries are now, and have been, for years, agitating the subject of a new National Association or Congress of Millers. A few—very few—millers have been made to believe that a National Association should take cognizance of all matters that are inimical to the interests of the local miller, and cite as examples the national associations of England, France and Germany. Now, a moment's serious thought given to this subject will satisfy any miller that the circumstances surrounding the milling industry of foreign countries are entirely different from those in the United States. You might as well expect England, France and Germany to combine in one association, and as such an individual combination, satisfy the members of each country, by trying to regulate all, under one general rule, as to expect the same of an association covering the territory of the United States. The local affairs of the Northwest should be looked after by the millers of that section, the local affairs of the Southwest by those of that section, etc. The interests of the different sections are not identical, nor can they be made so. Each section having like interests should be under one organization the object of

which should be to look after the general welfare of millers in that section, regardless of any other. There are but few matters covering the entire field, which are of equal and general interest to all sections, such as encouraging the export of flour, in place of wheat; domestic and foreign through bills of lading; tracing shipments to expedite their delivery; patent matters and their defense, or compromise; and as other matters present themselves, of general interest, they should be taken in hand by the National organization. Local organizations can regulate freight rates, prices for flour, insurance, introduction of choice selections of seed wheat, local litigation, and matters of purely local or sectional interest; not forgetting that in a social way, the coming together two or more times annually to compare notes, and get acquainted with their fellow millers, is of much greater importance than is generally supposed, for there is no class of business men who can come together occasionally, throwing off the cares of business, and have a better time for two or three days and get more restful enjoyment out of it than the millers at an outing of this kind.

The national organization must naturally be in a measure a "close corporation." It will not do to "proclaim from the housetop" its plans and intentions, but, having its work to do, do it quietly, earnestly and effectively. We have yet to hear of the first complaint of neglect or delinquency on the part of the Millers' National Association of the U. S. or its executive committee from any member of the Association. Every complaint yet heard against it has been from those who were not of it—or those who had an ax to grind, and the committee refused to "turn the stone."

Not one single matter or question for the general good that has come before the millers but that the Association has taken it up—and its committee devoted its time to working out the relief or reform desired, and in most cases, with wonderful success. In encouraging the export of flour, this Association, through its committees, had

several conferences with Secretaries Blaine and Rusk, which aided very materially in arranging the reciprocal relations between our country and South America and Europe that were formulated by our government. In rebate duties on jute bags exported, alone, the saving to millers, members and non-members alike, was more than the entire cost of membership in the Association since its organization; this too, after brokers, congressmen and senators had failed to secure relief. The uniform export bill of lading and the new domestic bill of lading, shorn of their most objectionable features, have been brought about as much by the persistent work of this association as by any and all other interests combined. The tracing bureau was a child of the National Association, and while not generally employed by the members, is a success, both financially and in its work. And the experience thus far gained has shown that such an undertaking can be made a very satisfactory and economical method of furnishing the shipper with information concerning the whereabouts of his property after it leaves the mill. Now a few words about

PATENTS AND PATENT CLAIMS.

The National Association since its organization has stood as a bulwark and defense between its members and the patent sharks that have infested the country, and has never failed to give the fullest protection. It has always been its policy to contest or compromise every claim made upon its members. Whenever any claim is presented, a full and complete investigation is made. If it has merit and can be compromised for less money than a contest would cost, that method is generally adopted. If it is shown to be a fraud, it is usually contested, and so far every litigation entered into by the Association has proven successful in the courts, and there has been no time during the last seventeen years that there has not been more or less litigation on hand—the present is no exception. The defense of the Russell suits alone will entail an expense of nearly or quite \$5,000, and the Lee suits possibly as much more. The

impression seemed to have gone out that the National Association was associated with the Cockle Separator Co. in the defense of the Lee suits; such was not the fact. Nor is the Cockle Separator Co. interested in the defense of the present suits brought by Lee against members. All who were members at the time that the settlement was made with the Knickerbocker Co. for use of the Cyclone Dust Collector received a license for all their machines then in use, and members were notified that in buying similar machines of other makes, they must look to the seller for protection. Consequently members have nothing to fear from that source, unless they have failed to heed the warning given them. We believe in organized effort for protection, and we further believe that there has never been organized an association where its members have reaped greater benefits than have those of the Millers' National Association. "Long may it wave."

WILLIE WOULD A-WOING GO.

IN the *Northwestern Miller* of the 18th, Willie very patronizingly informs the "defunct Millers' National Association" how, by the grace of his "Royal Highness," it may live and prosper. Willie has been sailing before the wind with a free sheet imagining all the while from the fuss made in the water that he was skimming lightly over the dark blue sea expecting from day to day to reach "Port destruction." Where he set sail for on his return from Europe—and where he expected to find the barque "Millers' National Association" and blow her skyhigh, and make good the threat "that for five years the other milling papers had in vain tried to break up the Association, but he would, unaided and alone, accomplish with his Northwestern gun, what they had tried to do and failed." However, he has just discovered, that all this time his little boat was tied to the dock, and the Association kept on growing stronger and stronger in spite of his bombastic paper-wad proclamations. He now proposes to cut loose from the dock, and sail on another tack.

He has discovered his mistake. After pecking at the National Association for two or three years, preaching its funeral sermon, burying an imaginary corpse, acting the part of prophet, priest, executioner, and grave digger, the object of his solicitude continues to flourish. The members in the meantime attending to their business, entirely unconscious of Willie's frantic efforts in their behalf. But he has made another discovery—has found "a vacuum," and something must be done at once. He would take that "dead" "decaying carcass" to his bosom. Nourish it, manage and protect it, furnish the brains to run it, *fill the vacuum*, even willing to make it the *tail* to his North-western kite, to enable him to fly it higher. He would change Association and make it a "League"—but it must do his bidding, he must have the privilege of pounding it over the head once a month (oftener if necessary), declare it "dead" that he might as often resuscitate and make it feel, that it is only by the grace of his astute highness that it *can* or has a *right* to exist. Willie has mistaken the temper of the millers of the country. His malignant assaults have won no friends; the millers owe him nothing, except pay for advertising, perhaps. Your patronizing offer to put the *North-western Miller* in as a 5,000 barrel mill savors too much of "bribery" to be entertained, even if the constitution did not expressly prohibit it. Willie, the millers have no use for a "Poo-bah." You can't run a mill, and you can't run an association. So like the shoemaker, you better "stick to your last." Your caustic pen has been no respecter of persons in its libelous attacks upon good and true men. You should have the motto, "*Rule or Ruin*," emblazoned on your banner. The executive committee long ago decided they had no use for you or your methods. And inasmuch as you could not control them, you have *continually* *maligned* them—but they still live and have the respect of their fellow citizens. Now, Willie, Au-revoir. Dip your pen in the blood of a black cat killed at midnight and scratch away, but don't come back at

us with seventeen pages of closely written fools cap—"a brief"—as we have no time to devote to such.

AN UNJUST DECISION.

WE publish elsewhere in this issue the late decision of the U. S. Supreme court in what is known as the Brass elevator case that has been watched with considerable interest by persons interested in the grain trade of the Northwest. We look upon this decision as a flagrant violation of individual rights in property. Carried to its ultimate results, this decision makes it possible for every undertaking to be declared a "public enterprise" by any legislature, and the business of private individuals monopolized by any and every person making demands upon it. The blacksmith at the crossroads may have his shop declared a public shop, where horses will be shod and insured at any fee the state may fix upon. Every mill may be declared a "public mill," where the proprietor may not be allowed to run it except as the public may choose to dictate. If he wants to run it as a merchant mill and a farmer comes along with a bag of wheat and demands to have it ground on a toll basis, it must be done, regardless of the interest or convenience of the miller. We are not surprised at the vigorous protest by Justices Brewer, Field, White and Jackson in the dissenting opinion. This decision may be in accordance with the laws governing such cases, but it is not justice.

WE have received a copy of the West Superior *Evening Telegram* Board of Trade edition, a large 20-page paper, devoted to the industry at the head of the lakes, particularly the milling and grain trades, which it treats very fully. Those who have not already received a copy would do well to send for one. The *Evening Telegram* is one of the progressive papers of the Superior district.

WE regret that delay in receiving our regular Buffalo letter compels us to go to press without this usually interesting correspondence this month.

RUSSIA TO ENCOURAGE THE CLEANING OF HER EXPORT GRAIN.

SEEING how greatly the Russian grain trade has suffered of late years by reason of the dirty and adulterated condition of the exported grain, it is to be hoped that a better state of things will be inaugurated by the exhibition of grain-cleaning machinery, which, at the instance of the Russian Minister of the Interior, is now being held at the St. Petersburg Museum, Solianio Gorodok. The English firms represented at this exhibition are Messrs. John Baker of Cambridge; Messrs. Bony, of Bury St. Edmunds; Messrs. Penney & Co., and Messrs. Rainworth & Sons, of Lincoln; and the last-named house has been awarded a large silver medal by the Minister of the Imperial Domains. America, of course, is also well represented, Messrs. Richmond & Co. displaying a large assortment of grain cleaning machines used in American elevators. Cheaper and inferior machines and implements of German make are also shown, and there is every likelihood, now that happy commercial relations are once more established between Russia and Germany, that a considerable trade will be done in this class of goods. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the exhibition is the Novorossisk section. This new Black Sea port, although opened only three or four years ago, is fast becoming the principal grain port of Russia. This is due partly to the fact that, unlike the other grain ports, it is not ice-bound in winter, and partly to its being managed to some extent on the American system. It is commonly spoken of as the "Chicago of Russia," and contains three immense elevators, with a capacity for 3,000,000, 4,700,000, and 3,200,000 pounds of grain respectively. (one pound equal to about 36 lbs av.) Photographs of these buildings and of the harbor piers are shown at the Exhibition. But much of the success of the port is due to the energetic management of the Novorossisk and Vladikavkaz Railway line, which brings the port into communication with the rich grain-producing districts of the Caucasus and connects with lines from other grain-producing districts of Russia. It is anticipated that before long a large amount of grain from South-western Siberia and from Central Asia will reach European markets by means of this railway. The line at present carries annually some 60,000,000 pounds, and at stations on it eight elevators have been erected for storage and cleaning purposes, each with a capacity of from one to two millions pounds of grain. All things considered, the growth of Novorossisk, which five years ago was but a sleepy

little fishing village, and now is second only in importance as a grain port to Odessa, is one of the most remarkable events in the history of European commerce.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

LATEST ADVICES FROM RUSSIA.

Advices from South Russia, dated Odessa, 11th May, read as follows: "Abundant rains have fallen over all the south of Russia during the past week, and reports from all quarters give the prospects of the coming harvest as excellent. The outlook, however, is anything but encouraging to the proprietors, who see in an abundant harvest only another factor towards still lower prices for their produce. A great deal of last year's grain is unsold, and at the prices now paying the return is not sufficient to pay the expense of sowing and harvesting. Proprietors would have preferred a moderate yield this year, as then they might have hoped to realize better prices for the grain which they have on hand. Labor has again been very dear during the seed time, and is likely to be so during harvest, and the prospect is that producers will have to face very heavy losses this autumn. There is a steady influx of grain by barge from the river stations, and holders have to accept whatever price they can get to avoid the expense of warehousing. Should prices abroad not improve it seems to be inevitable that there must be a further fall here. With the magnificent outlook for the harvest we may expect to see a very heavy export right through this year, as the grain cannot remain in the country, but will have to be shipped."—*Corn Trade News*.

ARGENTINA WHEAT.

The fact that there is no premium on Argentina wheat for future delivery is one of the serious obstacles that American shippers have to face. European buyers can buy that wheat for future months delivery at about the same price that spot wheat brings. This fact, were the shipments from that country small, would have no serious effect, but when they are sending out nearly as much wheat weekly as America it is a great drawback to trade, besides holding prices down. American wheat for future months is sold on the basis of spot prices, with the carrying charges added. Ocean rates are very low from the Atlantic seaboard to London and Liverpool, but they are not low enough so that European buyers can see any inducement to buy American wheat in preference to buying Argentina wheat for delivery several months ahead, where no carrying charges have to be paid.

Correspondence.

[The following letters are all from our own special correspondents, and reflect their views and the views of the trade in the location from which they write.]

NEW YORK.

Stagnation and Depression Renewed—New Low Records on Wheat and Flour—The Dullest Month on the Crop in Flour—Buyers Disheartened, Prices no Object—The Market Dead Beyond Resurrection—The Opening of Navigation Stimulates Exports of Wheat But Little—Europe more Independent of America Than at the Other End of the Crop—Trouble in The City Mill Trust—Enforcing a Boycott on Western Flour.

INSTEAD of improvement in the markets in wheat and flour, the past month has witnessed all that was gained this previous month, more than last, while the resumption of stagnation and depression has been more complete and accentuated than during this crop year. There has been a temporary exception, in the case of wheat, early this month, stimulated by the first lake and rail shipment to the seaboard from the spring wheat lake ports, but there has been nothing like the usual activity in these wheats for export upon the opening of lake navigation. This has been a great disappointment to the short crop bulls who have been holding on and looking for the last half of the crop year to show the shortage and make it feel at home and abroad. But like all their hopes of the crop year now almost past, they have proved a delusion and a snare in which millions of the money of the largest operators and investors in these markets have been absorbed as by a sponge. It is true, our visible supply has been decreasing, but later and less rapidly than usual even, instead of becoming practically exhausted, as was confidently expected before a new crop. Yet we are within 60 days of another, and, probably better crop than the last, with wheat enough in sight to carry us through on this side of the Atlantic and give Europe the usual supplies on a light crop. But, to our chagrin, she is less, instead of more dependent upon us than usual, and receiving weekly imports, right along, in excess of consumption in Great Britain, if not on the Continent, with no end of offerings of Argentine and Russian wheats at continually declining prices for prompt and forward shipment into the next crop.

TOO MUCH WHEAT EVERYWHERE

is the trouble, even here at home, while Europe is deluged by every exporting country on the face of the globe. The believers in "The Statistical Position of the Market," are all dead, and the "Short Crop" prophets, who have deceived them, would be dead also, if kicking by their hosts of victims, would kill them. "Statistics be damned" is the re-

ceived imprecation of the Bulls in wheat and the short crop prophets with them, including the official head of these baboons at the head of the Agricultural Crop Bureau at Washington. Surely, there never was so much money staked and lost on figures that have lied, as on those of the last wheat crop. Indeed it may nearly be laid down as an axiom in the trade, hereafter, that there can no longer be such a thing as a short crop of wheat, the world over, with the vast new areas under cultivation, in all the varied soils and climates of the habitable globe, which insure a good average crop of the supplies of food for mankind and feed for beasts, which, with cable and steam communication, the world over, can be made promptly available everywhere. Should any one of the great wheat exporting countries actually have a practically complete crop failure, such as Russia experienced two years ago, there will be no famine nor famine prices in other countries, as there were none then. Even should this country have such a calamity, which is scarcely among the possibilities, with its extended areas and varying soils and climates and seasons, the wheats of Argentine and Australia and Chile could all be directed from Europe to our shores without extra cost of transportation or extended delay, while Europe would have the comparatively new fields of India and Russia to draw upon, to make up her normal deficit, without advancing prices to anything like a famine basis. In fact, it would require the failure of the crops in two of the great grain producing countries of the world to make a famine; and, this is about as probable as the millennium or the end of the earth, which are hardly contingencies worth commercial consideration.

HENCE SHORT CROP PROPHETS WILL BE WITHOUT HONOR

in their own or any other land after this year's experience in following them; and, there will be no commercial use for, or value in, them hereafter, nor for crop statistics, until they have proved that they can sometimes be right by chance, which neither have done in the past four or five years. Like Talleyrand's use of language, to conceal rather than express thought, so have crop reports and statistics come to be regarded by the trade as gotten up to conceal rotten than reveal the truth regarding crop supplies. To speak the plain truth, this is about all that private crop experts and their reports as well as those of the states are gotten up for; the former to sell to speculators who are "monkeying" with the markets, for these crops, and the latter

in the supposed interest of the farmers who pay for them, on the idea that the smaller their crops are estimated the more they will get for them. Even the National Crop Bureau is infected with this desire to help the former, while its correspondents, upon whom it must rely, are necessarily with one of them and bound to make the best show for him possible. But like the boy that cried Wolf too often, they would no longer be believed, should the famine Wolf ever be at our door. Everybody is now skeptical about crop shortage or even damage, since the freezing and drought of March has proven of so little and limited injury to the growing crop. It has been this utter disbelief of all crop news that has caused such disgust among the Bulls and the consequent deeper depression since this March boom than before. While the Bears have grown correspondingly bold, and may overdo their advantage and the situation, yet, so long as supplies are so in excess of spot demand as now, it will take something like a miracle to raise wheat and flour from the slough of Despond into which these False Crop Prophets have plunged them.

LITTLE PROSPECT OF IMPROVEMENT.

Hence there appears little prospect of improvement between now and the new crop, unless manipulation of the overgrowing short interest is attempted, of which there is much apparently idle gossip in Chicago, or damage shall yet occur to the growing crop which would, of course, help the Bulls, if only temporarily. But with ordinary conditions, from now on the Bull side of the market promises to be a hard road to travel in the balance of this crop. Not only have the lowest prices on the crop and on record, been made the past month, in both wheat and flour (under 60c, or less than 1c per lb. here in New York, for No. 2 red wheat, and \$1.55 to \$1.75 for the lowest and highest grades of flour), but the market for the latter has been the dullest, without temporary strength or activity even, when the wheat market has rallied. So completely discouraged have flour dealers become that price is no longer any object, unless on stuff wanted for immediate consumption; and, in such few buyers there have been too many anxious and waiting sellers to get any advantage in the latter. Never, in an experience of over twenty years, in reporting these markets has there been such a dull month throughout in this state as the past. It is doubtful if a 10c advance in wheat would resurrect the flour market into life. For, the late advance of 8c failed to

do so while the subsequent 10c decline has equally failed to stimulate buying even for "investment," as this has played itself out in flour as well as wheat. The flour trade is composed of doubting Thomases and it would be hard to find a man in it, buyer or seller, who expects flour even to do better again. Exporters are equally out of the market except for an occasional lot of spring fines at \$1.55 for feeding purposes, and for a few favorite brands of Baker's extras and patents. But even these orders are falling off as European markets are glutted with flour as well as wheat, both native and foreign, as European millers are underselling us on flour made of cheaper Argentine and Russian wheats by 5c@6c per bushel, with which they are taking a little of our hard wheats, both Kansas and Duluth to mix. This is about all that has been done in wheat for export to the English markets while the Continent has taken chiefly of No. 2 red mostly for the Spanish markets. One of our export houses with English connections, has engaged in the sale here, and on the other side, of Argentine wheat for forward shipment, so dull is trade in our own wheats; and, some dozen or fifteen cargoes of the former have been sold to importers on the other side through their agents here.

Winter flours have dropped under \$3.00 for all but good patents and they are unsalable at over \$3.25, while the low grades drag below \$2.00 in bbls. Spring Baker's were sold ahead to blenders here and exporters, a month or more ago and these alone of the whole list, Spring or Winter are steady at \$2.50 in bbls. down. Choice brands of Spring Patents are only bid \$3.75 in lines and peddling at \$3.50 for country brands to \$3.85 for Minneapolis and Duluth, barring only Pillsbury's.

There has been frequent reference, of late in the flour trade, to the predictions of the Past Prophet of the Produce Exchange, whose "South American Spider and City Mill Flies" was published in the *United States Miller* nearly two years ago, when the city mills went into the flour trust and turned the contract of their business over to a former rival in the South American and West India trade. That prophecy has already been fulfilled in part, with the balance of it nearly ripe for fulfillment and facts coming out true. Already the old owners are getting out disgusted with the new regime. One of the Jewell's whose father founded and left the Jewell Milling Co. to his sons has left and gone into the West India trade for himself. The Jones' whose father equally founded and left them their

mill, are said to be trying to get out, but can't sell their stock without sacrifice, while Hecker is kept as the nominal head of the Trust, to hold the Catholic retail trade of this city which was secured and held against all comers, by his uncle who founded the mill and was a devout Catholic. But the real head of the trust is the "South American Spider" which has got the City Mill Flies where he wanted them; and, when their buzzing and kicking does not disturb the "Spider" whose web is closed closely about them. Now this "Spider's" attention is being devoted to attempting to boycott all Western flours in the West India and South American markets, by compelling all shippers from here who dare buy any but City Mill flours for those markets, to pay 10c per bbl. more for what they are obliged to have of the latter, than is charged to the "good" shippers, who use none but city mills. The indignation of receivers of Western flours as well as of the West India shippers know no bounds, when notice of this intention of the New City Mill Trust managers was served on them. But they found they could kick and pay 10c per bbl. for the luxury or be "good" and make 10c per bbl. more on their purchases of city than "naughty" shippers. Beside, the "Spider" had woven his web about the customhouse steamship lines or both, so that he was put in possession weekly, of a complete list of every bbl. of flour shipped hence to the West Indies and South America, the brand, the shipper and the consignee. By this system of espionage every West India shippers business is reported to the "Spider" who proceeds to pounce upon any shipper who does ship western flour and boycott him, because he will not boycott every other flour in the market.

NEW YORK, May 15.

DULUTH.

THE past month has brought but little in the way of business or encouragement to the millers at the head of the lakes. The revival which was confidently expected with the opening of navigation, did not come, and the month has been generally disappointing. The mills have been running very irregularly, and the output has been light. For April the production was 32,384 bbls. of flour for Duluth, and 115,985 for Superior, a total of 148,369 bbls., against 51,503 bbls. and 90,438 bbls., respectively, or 141,941 for April 1893. For the first half of May the output will reach 80,000 bbls., and the indications are that considerable more than that will be turned out during the rest of the month. The tendency is toward a better

condition; freights are low and transportation lines are offering everything in their power to induce shipping. A slightly stronger inquiry is reported for both the domestic and foreign trade, although the general tone of both markets is weak. Heretofore, in addition to the stagnant markets, millers have been fighting high rates and high prices for cash wheat.

The production of flour at these points, and the receipts of flour and grain for April, as compared with April, 1893, were as follows:

	1894.	1893.
Flour bbls. produced, Dul.	32,384	51,503
" " received Sup.	115,985	90,438
Wheat, bus.	250,957	137,569
Oats, " "	1,091,714	623,410
Rye, " "	2,134	875

The shipments of flour and grain during April this year, as compared with April last, are as follows:

	1894.	1893.
Flour from Dul. bbls.	44,983	51,493
" " " " " "	100,490	90,282
Wheat, bus.	942,965	36,304
Oats, " "	4,741	

On account of the general strike on the Great Northern railroad, wheat receipts were very light for the past few weeks, but they have been quite heavy for the past few days. The stocks, by grades, now at the head of the lakes, are shown by the following:

Grades.	Bushels.
No. 1 hard	4,518,453
No. 1 northern	4,862,463
No. 2 northern	188,792
No. 3 spring	25,494
No grade	9,948
Rejected and condemned	15,045
Special bin	288,453
Total wheat in store	9,906,472
In store and afloat corresponding date last year	17,510,547
Increase for the week last year	41,317
Stock of corn in store	291,905
Increase of corn during the week	21,228
Stock of rye in store	10,000
Decrease of rye during the week	21,964
Stock of flaxseed in store	505,557
Wheat in store at Minneapolis	10,587,097
Decrease wheat at Minneapolis	191,305
Corn in store at Minneapolis	135,976
Oats in store at Minneapolis	1,254
Rye in store at Minneapolis	9,445
Barley in store at Minneapolis	2,772
Flaxseed in store at Minneapolis	10,530

Of the receipts of Wheat during May, the local mills have not taken to exceed 50,000 bushels up to the present time, and of the nine odd million bushels of wheat in store, but little of it is available for milling. Estimates of the wheat to arrive from country elevators and bins, previous to the new crop, place it at about 2,500,000 bushels. The wheat now carried here waiting shipment, is held in the several elevator systems as follows:

Name of Company.	Bus.
Belt Line Elevator Co.	1,940,927
Duluth Elevator Co.	2,500,501
Great Northern Elevator Co.	706,318
Lake Superior Elevator Co.	819,086
Union Improvement and Elevator Co.	1,686,159
Superior Terminal Elevator Co.	1,654,391
Total	9,906,472

Wheat charters are being made at from 2c to 2½c from the head of the lakes to Buffalo, and all the business is being handled by the liners. Independent vessels are doing nothing, and many of them have gone to other ports or else are tied up.

General freighting is dull and

is, as a rule, controlled by season contracts. Some ore is going down the lakes, but the movement is weak, while up to date not to exceed 15,000,000 feet of lumber have been sent out by water. Lake rates generally are lower than on the 1st of May. They are still scheduled on a basis of 17½c per hundred pounds on flour to New York, by the linemen. Although it is generally understood that rates on a basis of 15c per hundred are granted to domestic points, and it is thought by the end of the month this will be the published rate. The fleet plying at this port opened the season charging nominally 17½c to New York, but the different lines began a quiet slashing war at once, and it is reported that cargoes were taken to New York for export on a basis of 12½c per hundred pounds. But little flour is sent to Montreal for export, but considerable wheat is forwarded by that route on a rate of 13c. Ocean rates are generally lower, with a downward tendency. The following rates are furnished by two leading lines, from the head of the lakes to the points named, in cents per hundred pounds.

	Lake, rail and ocean.	All rail and ocean.
Amsterdam	25.00	42.50
Antwerp	31.99	48.78
Bristol	25.71	43.21
Bremen	28.00	45.50
Dundee	29.73	47.21
Glasgow	14.64	32.34
Hamburg	31.00	48.50
Liverpool	32.50	50.00
London	22.88	40.38
Rotterdam	24.00	41.50
St. John, N. F.	28.00	45.50
Leith	28.81	44.31
Halifax	28.00	43.50

Despite the rather favorable conditions, however, under which shipments may be made, the foreign demand is exceedingly dull.

The celebrated case of David B. Lyman vs. The Northern Pacific Elevator Co., which has been pending for some months, has been argued before Judge Sanborn, of the U. S. Court. The result was that the receiver, M. J. Forbes, of this city, was directed to distribute \$324,465, in his hands, as follows:

The attachments of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the Bank of Toronto, Alfred McArdle, J. F. McPherson, attaching creditors, are by the consent of said parties released and discharged, both as concerns the wheat and all the proceeds. The Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Toronto are allowed to participate in all the wheat or proceeds, now or after coming to the receiver on the basis of their warehouse receipts, or on the basis of 490,000 bushels of wheat called for by said receipts and they are to share pro rata in all the wheat with other holders of the elevator companies receipts shown in other schedules. The attaching creditors will receive on

this basis about one fiftieth of the money to be divided.

The \$324,465 is distributed among the holders of all the warehouse receipts to share and share alike, and the receiver is ordered to distribute the monies accordingly. The order further protects the receiver from liability for acts done in accordance with it, and it is still further ordered by consent that the accounts of the various creditors in their attaching actions in North Dakota and Washington, amounting to \$4,000, are adjudged a claim against the elevator company and constituted a full claim to tax costs, while the attachments are to stand under orders or stipulations previously made, as against all the attached property, except the wheat and proceeds thereof, provided the order and decree shall in no way affect or determine any question as to the regularity or validity of such attachment proceedings.

It is finally ordered by consent that the receiver pays the attorneys of the attaching creditors the further sum of \$5,000, which is borne by all the warehouse receipt holders pro rata.

Reports which have been received here from the Minnesota and Dakota wheat fields up to May 10, while varying, show a condition of the spring crop below the average. Cold, late rains have been the chief drawback, while from several points in Minnesota, winter wheat is reported winter killed. A few localities report that the very early sown wheat and oats are coming thin, and in some instances the ground has been reseeded. The past week has been the most favorable for the growing crop of any previous time this season.

A scheme is being informally discussed by millers and others interested in the local wheat market, to plant a number of small elevators throughout the Northwestern wheat belt, purchase their own wheat and draw on it as production requires. This system would obviate the paying of a premium for milling wheat, and give the manufacturers of flour the profits which now go to the middle men. Last fall the Russell & Miller Co. started in to carry out this idea, and went so far as to select ten sites in as many towns in the Northwestern territory, but on account of the panic gave up the project, at least temporarily. The plan may be taken up and investigated by the Millers' Association at the head of the lakes. This association, at a recent meeting, selected Thomas Gibson to do all the buying on the Duluth board of Trade, for all the members of the association. The several mills have withdrawn their individual representatives on the board,

and Mr. Gibson will act for all. This step was taken in the direction of economy and to prevent any apparent or actual competition on the part of the different mill firms among themselves. The cost of manufacturing flour in these times is so near the price paid by wholesalers that every expense possible must be eliminated, in order to show even a small profit.

Word is received here that the great steamer which has been built for J. J. Hill, for the passenger trade between Buffalo and Duluth, can not get through the Soo Canal, that the boat, light, draws 14 feet and 9 inches, several inches more than there is water in the canal. The boat, it is understood, will be put on between Buffalo and Chicago, until the completion, in July or August, of the Canadian Canal. This change, if it must be made, is not only a serious affair for the Great Northern railway system, but will have a decided influence on marine matters generally on Lake Superior. Officials of the Great Northern, stationed here, are yet denying the rumor, and say that it is absurd, that the boat draws but 13 feet, 10 inches aft, and that she will be here the first week in June.

Work is progressing rapidly on the splendid new board of trade building in Duluth. The present quarters of the board are so inconvenient that the building committee will allow no time to be wasted in the erection of the new block. It will be a large structure and will have ample room, not only for all purposes of the board, but for offices for all grain firms, vessel agents and kindred interests.

Representatives of every mill at the head of the lakes met in the office of B. C. Church, in this city, on Friday of this week to protest against the discrimination in flour rates by all the railroads, as against Duluth and in favor of Minneapolis. A protest was formulated, signed by the various milling concerns, and sent to the railroads. The ordinary differential between Duluth and Minneapolis, in favor of Duluth, has been $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents per hundred pounds, but it is down to $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents. This, the millers say, is not a just and equitable rate, and their protest demands an equalization.

The official figures just issued, showing the receipts and shipments of wheat at the great markets of the United States, gives Duluth the first place for shipments during 1893 among the primary markets, including Duluth, Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Louis. The figures of shipments for last year were as follows: Duluth, 33,700,847 bushels; Chicago, 24,715,738;

Minneapolis, 14,947,900; St. Louis, 7,836,884. The shipments from New York, which is not a primary market, but a distributing center in a large measure, were only 38,000,000, or a trifle more than 4,000,000 bushels in excess of the shipments from Duluth. In receipts among the primary markets, Minneapolis stands first, the great amount of wheat consumed by the mills there accounting for its drop to third place as a shipping point.

The big Imperial is running on both sides this week, and hope is entertained that business will warrant the continuance of the lively gait. When the output of this mill, 6,000 barrels a day, is withdrawn, there is an appreciable shrinkage in totals from the mills at the head of the lakes.

With the settlement of the strike on the great Northern, and a consequent improvement of business conditions, a much better feeling prevails among mill men and grain dealers generally; the outlook is decidedly better than it was a week or two ago. H. F. J.

DULUTH, May 12th.

SUPERIOR.

THE mills at Superior have been running quite irregularly for the month last past, the weak demand for flour, and the high premium demanded for milling wheat being the chief causes. During last week the mills were in operation about one-fourth their capacity and turned out 35,921 bbls. of flour as against 25,696 bbls. the week before, and 34,358 for the corresponding week last year. Low freight rates on export business are helping the millers out, and this week there is being an increased output. Export business already shows the stimulating effect of low freight tariffs, and last week the export shipments aggregated 20,605 bbls against 6,857 bbls. the week before, and 6,573 bbls. for the corresponding week a year ago. Millers are in better spirits than they have been for some time. They still are obliged to pay relatively high prices for wheat, but not quite as much so as was the rule a week and two weeks ago. About the only draw back now being experienced is the absence of fresh receipts from the country, and considerable wheat has been taken out of store during the first part of this month to supply the needs. Receipts, however, are beginning to pick up as the normal condition of things has been restored on the Great Northern, and this draw back is being fast overcome. For the last few days the receipts have averaged about 100 cars of wheat a day.

Vessel owners are also feeling a trifle better. Wheat rates

to Buffalo have been scandalously low, and with no coal for returning cargoes, business was being done at a loss. Rates have advanced recently and are firm now at 2 cents; and 80 cents is paid for ore, and lumber has advanced to \$1.75. The ore traffic from the head of the lakes is especially lively. Rates on flour now quoted by the several transportation lines are shown by the following table, in cents, per 100 lbs.:

From Superior to:	Lake and rail.	All rail.	Across lake.
New York.....	15	34½	30½
Montreal.....	18	32½	30½
Boston.....	17½	34½	32½
Philadelphia.....	15	30½	29½
Baltimore.....	12	28½	27½
Albany, Troy, Schenectady.....	14	31½	29½
Utica.....	13½	30½	29½
Syracuse.....	12	28½	28½
Buffalo, Erie.....	10	25	23
Chicago.....	10	12½
Toledo.....	10	21½

Shipments in any direction have not been steady, and it is beginning to be a matter for wonder on the part of the millers as to what the people are living on. According to all calculations the warehouses throughout the country are about depleted and wholesalers have exhausted their stocks, yet the orders from all these sources are meagre. Owing to the cost of manufacture—premiums paid for wheat, quotations on flour show but a little shading. At the beginning of the present week the following quotations were given for car lots, per bbl. of 196 lbs.:

First patents, in wood.....	\$3.45@3.55
Second patents, in wood.....	3.30@3.40
Fancy bakers', in wood.....	2.30@2.40
Export bakers', in wood.....	2.05@2.15
Low grades, in bags.....	1.30@1.50

A discount is made from flour in wood in favor of sacks as follows: On 280 and 140-lb. jute bags and 98-lb. cotton sacks, 20c.; 49-lb. cotton sacks, 10c.; paper sacks, 20c. In $24\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cotton sacks, the price is the same as in wood. In half barrels, 30c. extra is charged. When packages are furnished by the buyer, 30c. is deducted from the price in wood.

While at this writing a little activity is shown and a better feeling in consequence obtains all along the line, yet it is exceedingly difficult to predict condition for the immediate future. The coal strike is already affecting shipping, and, of course, manufacture depends almost entirely on this branch of the business. Unless business is soon resumed at the mines, shipping will be seriously disturbed, if not generally discontinued. Not only is there a fuel famine in prospect, but the absence of returning cargoes is a serious draw back, and will cause many of the vessels to tie up. Just what effect this will have on the output and prices, cannot be satisfactorily determined at present.

The mills at the head of the lakes have a notion that a little competition in the cooperage line would be a good thing, consequently the Minneapolis

Cooperage Co., by P. W. Herzog of Chicago, has been looking over the field in this line. Among the mills which might favorably consider such competitive enterprise are the Listman, Anchor and Lake Superior mills. Heretofore the Hardwood Mfg. Co. Cooper shops have supplied these mills, but it is believed that another factory would be desirable and the Minneapolis concern is meeting with encouragement. It intends to begin work as soon as possible, and will manufacture a superior barrel, comprising a flat hoop, with a copper wire strand about it. The shop will have capacity for about 75 men.

The Bemis bag factory has begun the manufacture of bags, and will for the present be content in supplying the Superior and Duluth mills. This factory will be of benefit and convenience to the local millers, as they were formerly obliged to send to Minneapolis, and from four to five days were often required to fill an order. The employes are mostly girls, some seventy-five being engaged in the work. It is the intention of the management to ultimately supply the trade of the northwest.

The Superior Board of Trade is finally and firmly established and is already doing excellent work. The Board of Trade building is being put in fine condition for the uses of the board, and offices for millers and grain men generally. Among the members to whom certificates have been issued are the following: L. F. Johnston, C. H. Sunderland, E. E. Barton, Alex. McEachern, A. W. Stow, W. J. Whipple, A. A. Cross, George L. Brooks, Theodore B. Smith, H. E. Ticknor, John A. Bardon, W. M. Tate, S. E. Middleton, H. M. Nichols, J. T. Shuweiler, S. T. Norvell, F. H. Decker, E. P. Conklin, I. L. Lamm, J. T. Culver, C. J. McCollom, W. H. Crumpton, C. H. Schnyzk, James S. Ritchie, Joseph Baribeau, R. Rochester, J. H. McBride, Lewis Larson, C. W. Aust, C. A. Holwick, James Ferguson, Dr. H. J. Connor, R. J. Wemyss, W. H. Slack, W. B. Banks, James Bardon, R. M. Todd, L. R. Hurd, Freeman Milling Company, American Steel Barge Works, James H. Agen, S. A. Clark, B. S. Loney, Keystone National Bank, Peter Deyo, Sylvester Strong, Henry Miller, F. E. Hanson, C. A. Schultz, Melville C. Smith, Quintin Johnson, E. C. Kennedy, William Thompson, G. G. Barnum, C. C. Tannis, L. H. Page, Anchor Milling Company, W. B. Palmer of Kirkbride, Palmer & Co., Minneapolis, P. M. Chandler of Linton & Chandler, B. F. Hutchins and F. J. Matchett.

The Duluth Board of Trade requires all elevator companies

whose receipts are regular on the Board to maintain offices in Duluth. The new Superior Board announces that the same elevators regular on the Duluth Board will be regular on the Superior Board. The question is now raised, whether or not the Superior Board will require the elevator companies to maintain offices in Superior. It seems to be the opinion of many board of trade men that all such elevators should have offices in this city.

L. R. Hurd, A. A. Cross and J. J. Atkinson, the committee appointed by the board of trade to get up a circular letter on the organization of the board, have completed their work in a very satisfactory manner. The circular contains a cut of the board of trade block, and a diagram of the three floors to be occupied by the board. It also contains information of the elevators, mills and banks of the city. The letter states:

"It is important to know that the board will adopt the Minnesota state inspection for grain, accepting the inspection and weighing of this department, thus preventing any confusion or conflict of grades at the head of the lake. The same elevators will be made regular on the Superior board when they comply with the rules as are now regular on the Duluth board, and the contract grade will be the same as on the Duluth board, namely, No. 1 northern."

There are at present at the head of the lakes about 700,000 tons of coal, and if the strike continues much longer it will be necessary to send some of this reserve to Chicago by rail. One company, it is announced, has closed a contract to send 300 cars to Chicago when called for. The shipping of coal from here would be very expensive business, and such contingency will be the last resort.

Arthur Miller of the Russell & Miller Milling Co. has recently made a tour of the wheat territory of the West. He reports conditions favorable for the new crop.

H. L. Case superintendent of the Grand Republic Mill elevator, has recently returned from a trip to Detroit, Port Huron and other eastern points.

Construction on the new Barclay flouring mill has been resumed and is now progressing rapidly. The frame superstructure is about completed. The mill will soon be finished and will be modern and first class.

Breadstuffs are strong and active. The New England market is taking considerable stuff from the local mills, and throughout the dull times this commodity has sold at fair prices. Bran or shorts in bulk, f. o. b. are quoted at \$11.50 to \$12.

The car service report for the past month shows a very light business. The total number of cars handled was 8,537 of which Superior handled 4,293 and Duluth 4,244. The principal items of the traffic are as follows:

Hay and straw, 214; flour, feed and bran, 610; corn and oats, 108; general groceries and merchandise, 55; sugar, syrup and salt, 86; fruit and vegetables, 101; meat and live stock, 143; miscellaneous, 19; beer, 80; oil, 32; furniture, 51; lumber and forest products, 936; wood, 26; brick, tile and sewer pipe, 63; stone and sand, 37; cement, lime and clay, 75; wagons and wagon stuffs, 14; iron, iron pipe and machinery, 125; empty barrels and barrel stock, 176; wheat, flax, rye and barley, 2,050; coal and coke, 3,486.

Word comes from Kansas City to the effect that a general strike is being planned to take place in all flouring mills throughout the country under the auspices of the Flour Mill Employees Union, which union now being perfected throughout the country is affiliated with the Knights of Labor. It is stated that organizers are at work in Superior and Duluth, as well as Minneapolis and throughout the milling districts, and that as soon as the organization is strong enough, formal demands will be made on milling companies, which, if not met will precipitate a strike. These demands, it is understood, are for shorter days and an increase of wages.

The first month's business through the "Soo" was light, but a fraction of the month being represented. Among the items east bound were: Copper, 650 tons; corn, 163,300 bus.; flour, 309,480 bbls.; iron ore, 56,501 tons; lumber, 1,159,000 feet; wheat, 921,466 bus. The freight up, all told, amounted to 67,349 net tons. The canal opened on the 17th of April, and last year on May 1st.

The barge works of this city are employing one hundred men, doing repair work mostly. There is but one unfinished whaleback on the stocks, barge No. 135, which will be finished some time during the present season. The outlook is not such as to inspire new prospects in ship building.

It begins to look to the deep-water-way-to-the-sea advocates here that Superior and Duluth must look with favor for a channel through Canada by Montreal, as it is thought the New York Railway and elevator barons will never permit the Erie Canal to be deepened and widened. If the prospect for a canal across New York were feasible, the work might furnish a solution of the problem of the unemployed and of the Coxey armies.

E. T. D.

SUPERIOR, May 12.

LONDON.

DURING the past month not much has occurred in the milling world that has left its mark on the history of the flour milling industry. It is true that on the case of Parkinson and another, versus Simon, being given in favor of Mr. Henry Simon, of Manchester, the well known milling engineer, by the Judge on account of the claims in Parkinson's patent specification, with the exception of one claim, being in his opinion old, the plaintiffs applied and were granted a fortnight to appeal against that decision, and since my last letter to the readers of the UNITED STATES MILLER, that appeal has been lodged. It is stated that the trial of this action has so far cost between £5000 and £7000, and it is a question whether the case won't go up to the highest court of all—the House of Lords. In the meantime both Messrs Robinson, who make the Kohinoor Purifier under the patent, and Mr. Simon are advertising in the trade press the effect of the action on their respective machines, and it is very amusing to read one advertisement against the other, as they are both drawn up in order to contradict what is said by the other party in the counter-advertisement.

Another bit of milling news, which fact, however, did not bring forth much as regards increased membership, is the meeting of the National Association of British and Irish Millers at Birmingham under the presidency of Mr Edgar Appleby, whose portrait has already appeared in the UNITED STATES MILLER some eight months since. At this meeting the election of the president for the ensuing year took place, and the voting went in favor of Mr. John Mooney of Dublin, who has, ever since the Association was founded, taken a keen interest in its welfare. Mr. John Mooney is a well known miller of Dublin, and managing director of the large bakery business carried on by Messrs. Johnson, Mooney and O'Brien, in the capital of the Emerald Isle. The question of where the next convention shall be held is left in the hands of the president-elect, who takes office on that occasion for the first time, but, there seems no doubt but that the convention this year will be held in Ireland, about the end of June. After having disposed of this important subject on the agenda, the meeting at Birmingham then discussed the best means of bringing their grievance as to the railway charges and rates before the President of the Board of Trade in order to strengthen his case, when the bill dealing with railway rates is brought

forward for the second reading. The next subject that occupied the attention of the meeting, was the taking of samples from the bags of wheat as they lay, stacked in bulk, on the quay or in the ware-houses. Now the samples are taken by the merchants, in an unfair manner, as when the wheat is sold on the sample it is generally found that the bulk does not come out according to the sample on which the wheat is bought, but the custom of the trade is such that if a miller or buyer breaks the stack, and then finds out that the inner lot of the bags is not up to the merchant's sample, he cannot refuse to take it, as bought on sample, as the deal has been done, according to the customs of the trade. After some considerable discussion the following resolution was passed:—That we petition the Corn Trade Associations of Bristol, Glasgow, Hull, Liverpool and London, and all other ports in the kingdom, including those of Ireland, to carry out this resolution, as a petition from this Association.

"That in cases where wheat is tendered in silos, or bags against spot or future contracts, samples shall be drawn as the deliveries proceed, and if the average samples drawn be not equal to the sales sample, the buyer shall have the right to claim arbitration, even after he has broken bulk."

Soon after this the meeting terminated and the members of the Association dined together.

By the way, the Directors of the International Confectioners and Bakers' Exhibition report that the space already allotted for the second annual Exhibition is much greater than that occupied at the last Exhibition, and that there will be a good display of flour by some of the largest millers in this country. The exhibition is to be held from the 22nd to the 29th of September next, and all exhibits are to be in the building and arranged on their respective stands by 10 o'clock on the morning of Saturday the 22nd of September.

Amongst the new machinery that has recently been put in this market is a complete set of grain cleaning machines, by Mr. Henry Simon, of Manchester, which he has named the "Reform" Dustless Wheat Cleaners. They consist of Warehouse Separator, Milling Separator, Wheat Scourer and Wheat Brush.

During the month of April the market has made two movements, the one which continued until the 14th of the month was upwards, due to the continuation of the drought in this country and the Continent, while the other—the downward movement—was not only due to weakness of the

LAKE SUPERIOR MILLS.

LAKE SUPERIOR MILLS,
SUPERIOR, WIS.

6000 BARRELS DAILY CAPACITY.

L. R. HURD, MANAGER.

Daisy Roller Mill Co.,

Proprietors.

DAISY ROLLER MILLS,
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

1800 BARRELS DAILY CAPACITY.

H. E. BROOKS, MANAGER.

American markets, but to the wonderful transformation that the showers of rain effected on the growing crops during the last half of the month. As the agricultural situation improved during the last two weeks, the values of hay, feeding stuffs, grain and flour, day by day gradually declined until to-day flour can be obtained at a price lower than has ever before been known. It must not be supposed, however, that the regrettable depression which surrounds the corn market means a great reduction in the movement of breadstuffs, for none the less, the inhabitants of the United Kingdom must be fed, and every week for this purpose the equivalent of 575,000 quarters of wheat must be distributed through trade channels to meet the consumptive demand. It has been rather unfortunate for those who have been doing the distributing of the food for the people, especially when their hopes had been raised by the steadily advancing markets during the first half of the month of April, for after the commencement of the April showers, they saw, as there came a plentiful supply of rain with bright sunshine at intervals, the value of the breadstuffs they held in hand gradually decline; and although now the prices have got to the lowest point ever known for

flour and wheat, and it seems impossible for values to decline further, they have now no heart left to speculate. *Dornbusch* in its last weekly review of the grain trade gave the following interesting table, which will give the readers of the *UNITED STATES MILLER* some idea of the present position of the stocks in this country and a comparison with the three previous years.

	At present.	Last week.	Last year.	Two years ago.
Stocks of foreign wheat and flour in the U. K. ports and mill granaries	1,355,000 qrs.	1,350,000 qrs.	2,520,000 qrs.	2,460,000 qrs.
Wheat and flour afloat for U. K.	3,641,000 qrs.	3,569,000 qrs.	3,583,000 qrs.	3,012,300 qrs.
Total foreign.	5,796,000 qrs.	5,519,000 qrs.	6,683,000 qrs.	5,472,300 qrs.
British wheat undelivered.	1,795,000 qrs.	1,891,000 qrs.	2,634,000 qrs.	3,650,000 qrs.
Total British and foreign.	7,574,000 qrs.	7,410,000 qrs.	8,887,000 qrs.	8,892,000 qrs.
Visible Supply in America.	8,550,000 qrs.	8,620,000 qrs.	9,513,000 qrs.	5,258,000 qrs.
Total.	15,927,000 qrs.	16,062,000 qrs.	18,410,000 qrs.	13,750,000 qrs.

At Mark Lane market yesterday the following prices ruled

for flour and even at these extremely low prices business was very dull and restricted.

For English made flours:—Town households, 19s; No. 2 Households, 17s 6d; Town Whites, 23s 3d and country flours from 17s to 21s. For American well known brands:—Pillsbury Best, 24s; Morrison's Supers, 23s; Washburn Gold Medal, 23s 6d; Iron Dukes, 16s 3d; Nabob Patent 22s; Otsego, 16s 6d.

CERES.

LONDON, May 1, 1894.

THE CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE
ADOPTS NEW ELEVATOR
REGULATIONS.

The Board of Trade Directors after three long meetings decided yesterday to adopt sections four and six of the majority report of the special elevator investigating committee. The committee labored six weeks, and at the end the majority, consisting of W. H. Beebe, James S. Templeton, H. C. Coon and H. F. Dousman, presented their report in nine sections. The committee investigated the elevator business thoroughly and reviewed its history at length. Only the salient points were adopted by the directors. Section 2 is the most important and takes the question of declaring elevators regular that have private clearing houses connected with them. This, it is claimed, is not conducive to maintaining

the integrity of our standard grades of grain. At the same time they hardly think it proper that the support of the general market should be given to an individual whose paramount interest is opposed to the good of the market.

It is recommended in section 3 that the Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners endeavor to stop the practice of taking grain into an elevator at a certain grade when it is being loaded out of an elevator and objected to by the shipper and the latter is sustained by the supervising inspector. Section 4 is very similar to section 3 and refers to shippers being compelled to accept grain that is up to grade, and that the elevators should make proper distribution of it if it is not.

In section 6 the committee say that elevator proprietors have not been careful to make the receipts "special" where the grain is put into such bins as required by law. This they say should be attended to by the registrar.

D. E. Richardson presented a minority report in which he took entirely different views. His report was ordered placed on file.

President Raymond was instructed to confer with the elevator men regarding the proposed changes and report to the directors on Tuesday next.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean, May 11.*

N. D. ELEVATORS.

Decision by the United States Supreme Court.

A special telegram dated Washington, May 14th, to the *Pioneer Press*, says: The decision of the United States Supreme court was rendered in what is known as the Brass case. It will go a long way toward settling the vexed question of the state supervision of the elevator and grain business. It is, however, unfortunate that the court was not more nearly a unit in reaching its findings. The case was decided in favor of the State of North Dakota by a bare majority, the chief justice and four associate justices joining in a dissenting opinion. There have in years past been two declarations of the court on the question of the state control of elevators, the Munn case arising from Chicago and the Budd case in Buffalo, but the conditions were there entirely different from those surrounding the Brass case. In the former the elevators were terminal elevators, and the very nature of the case created a practical monopoly of the business, and on this ground largely the decision in the Munn and Budd cases was in favor of state control. The elevators which have been making a test case of the Brass case have waited eagerly for today's decision to see whether the monopoly would be held to exist in a sidetrack station on the prairies of North Dakota.

Brass was the proprietor of a flat house on the line of the Northern Pacific in North Dakota. The law of that state made it a public elevator and compelled him to receive grain offered for storage and store and insure it. Louis W. Stoesser offered him 4,000 bushels of wheat. He declined to receive it. Stoesser secured a mandamus and the case has come up on Brass' appeal. Justice Shiras, who rendered the decision for Stoesser and the state, said for the majority of the court that they had followed the precedent established by themselves in the two other cases to which reference had been made.

Justice Brewer, who read the dissenting opinion, sustained all the contentions of Brass. He held that the warehouse was not a public elevator, as the business of storing grain was only incidental to his business of buying and selling grain, and that to force him to receive and store any quantity of grain was simply to deprive him of the use of his own property in carrying on his business. He holds further that the state had no right to compel Brass to insure the grain, a matter of business entirely foreign to that in which he was engaged, especially when the state fixed a maximum charge

which might not cover the actual cost of insurance. He also controverts the monopoly theory of the majority of the court. There are six hundred or more elevators and warehouses in North Dakota, and in the village in which this case arose there were several others. A warehouse large enough for the crop of any farm could be built at a trifling expense and no monopoly could arise as at a terminal point. Justices White, Jackson and Field coincided with Justice Brewer's views.

MONKEYING WITH BRANDS.

The Pillsbury-Washburn Flour Mills Company of Minneapolis, filed a bill in the Circuit Court yesterday asking an injunction against Ephraim Hewitt, a flour dealer at No. 255 Lake street, and L. F. Pillsbury, of Lagrange, to restrain them from selling flour under the name of one of Pillsbury's brands.

The complainants state that a year ago L. F. Pillsbury had made a counterfeit of one of their brands. The bill alleges that an arrangement was entered into with Ephraim Hewitt, the Chicago flour dealer, by which an inferior grade of flour is purchased, put into sacks and barrels on which is the "counterfeit" brand and then sold with "a design to defraud and misrepresent by passing it as the brand in question. Complaint alleges that L. F. Pillsbury is not and never has been engaged in the manufacture of flour nor has he any capital invested in the business. He has an arrangement with Hewitt by which he receives a royalty on all flour sold. The bill further sets forth that enormous profits are made as the brand finds a ready sale and the damage already inflicted on the Pillsbury-Washburn Company by selling of an inferior article is placed at \$500,000. An accounting is demanded, and subpoenas have been served on Mr. Hewitt and L. F. Pillsbury, requiring them to appear and show why the injunction should not be granted.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean*, May 11th.

CROP CONDITIONS.

The following special telegram to the *Minneapolis Tribune* dated Washington, D. C., May 22, says: The weather bureau, in its report of weather crop conditions for the week ended May 21, says:

On the middle Atlantic coast, from the Carolinas to New Jersey, over the states of the eastern Rocky mountain slope, and in the northern portions of the Upper Mississippi and Missouri valleys the weather has been slightly warmer than usual; elsewhere the weather has

been decidedly cool, the temperature averaging from three to seven degrees per day below the normal in portions of New England, and over the entire region from the great lakes to the gulf, while the deficiency in temperature was equally as marked on the Pacific coast.

The week has been one of unusual temperature extremes, the difference between the highest and lowest temperature amounting to as much as 60 degrees in the Upper Missouri valley, and ranging from 40 to 60 degrees over the greater portion of the country east of the Rocky mountains. Ice formed in Wisconsin and snow fell in Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky, being unusually heavy in the eastern and central portions of the last named state, which was covered with from two to eight inches on the 20th. In Kentucky and northern Florida the temperature reached the lowest point that has been reported in May since the establishment of the weather bureau. Frost, more or less damaging, occurred in New England, the Lake region, generally throughout the states of the Upper Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio valleys, and as far as south as northern Mississippi.

The rainfall was very heavy in the lake region, the Ohio valley and the middle Atlantic states. Over a large part of the region named from two to three inches more than the usual amount of rain fell, and in portions of Pennsylvania, western New York, Michigan and Wisconsin, the actual rainfall amounted to from three to five inches, causing destructive freshets. The rainfall was also very heavy in eastern Montana, and was generally above the average over Idaho, eastern Oregon, and Washington and Central California.

In the Southern states, except over a few limited areas, and from Iowa and South Dakota, southward to Texas, the rainfall was below the average. There was a total absence of rain in Kansas, southwestern Missouri, Oklahoma, western Texas, and over the greater part of Arkansas. Drought prevails in eastern South Dakota, Nebraska, Arkansas, southwestern Texas and New Mexico.

A PROSPECTUS, setting forth the object of the National School of Electricity, at Chicago, just organized, has been issued, a copy of which we have received. This school has been brought into existence through the great demand by the masses for practical education in the subject of electricity. The faculty is made up of the most eminent practical and professional men in the electrical field and it is the purpose to

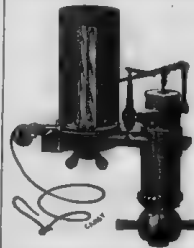
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LITERARY NOTES.

"Eighty years young," said Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes when asked his age on a now famous birthday. For forty-four years *Harper's new Monthly Magazine* has kept abreast of the best art and the latest knowledge. It is new every month. Besides its articles on general topics, the May number contains six complete short stories, a generous installment of Mr. Du Maurier's novel, "Tribby," half a long story by James Lane Allen, and more pictures than the average illustrated book.

When you wish to know in a general way what happened, you read the morning (or evening) newspaper. When you want to know how it looked you buy *Harper's Weekly*.

The initial letter of an interesting series, to be sent weekly from Paris by Miss Catherine de Forest, the regular correspondent of *Harper's Bazaar*, will appear in that paper in its issue of May 5. Miss de Forest will give the very latest news from Paris about the fashions, and will also write of current happenings in that brilliant capital, give bits of society gossip, and notes from studios and the salons. Her bright womanly letters will be a strong feature of the *Bazaar* during the summer and autumn.

Among the articles on public questions in *The Century* for May are discussions in the editorial department of "What is Political Economy?" "The Foreign Element in Trade-Unions," and "Popular Education in Citizenship." Theodore Roosevelt contributes an "Open Letter" on "The Common Sense of Civil Service Reform," and attention is again called to "The Depletion of American Forests."

The proposed income tax is discussed in its various bearings by the editor of the *Review of Reviews* in "Progress of the World" for May. Objections to the measure are vigorously stated. Its exemption line is declared to be un-American.

The *May St. Nicholas* comes with a blooming frontispiece to remind its readers of the present, and then plunges them into the past by beginning with Molly Elliot Seawell's patriotic serial, "Decatur and Somers." Here is an ideal way to absorb history! Excellently told is the story of the boyish commanders who set so high a standard for the American tar. The whole story is salt of the sea, and the fluttering of "Old Glory" can be heard in the fresh, breezy style. Miss Seawell's many admirers have read no better story than is here promised them. Indeed, if compulsion were necessary, they should be made to read this story as a bit of American history; it will be enough, we are sure, to see that they start it,—the rest goes without pushing.

The complete novel in the May number of *Lippincott's* is "The Autobiography of a Professional Beauty," by Elizabeth Phipps Train, whose hand is light but firm and sure. This work of a little-known writer is remarkable for the freshness and brightness of its style; the heroine is conducted through manifold social and moral dangers to a safe haven.

The amount of Argentina wheat afloat for Europe at present is about 16,000,000 bushels. This is a larger amount than is on the way from any other country.

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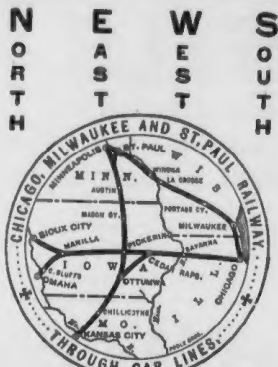
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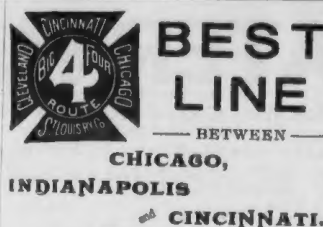
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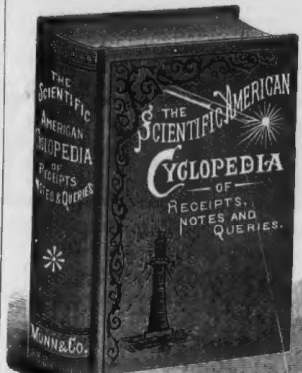
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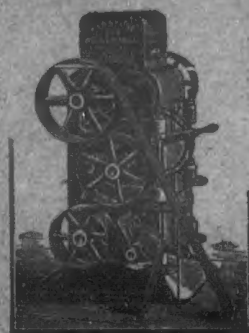
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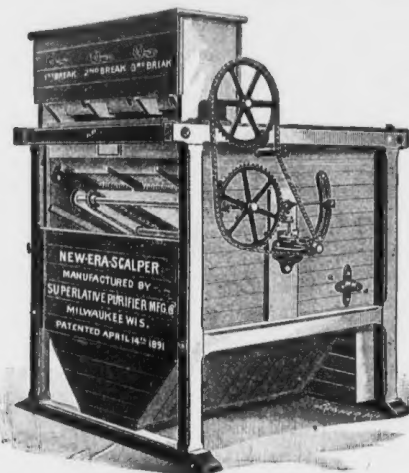
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